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Predictive texting no Nostradamus

At first glance, it might seem like a great time saver, but T9's inherent problems will have you tearing your hair out and smashing your phone on the sidewalk



RUTH
MCGAFFIGAN

Text messaging has exploded as a favoured mode of communication amongst the student crowd—Facebook wall posts coming in at a close second.

And why not? It's difficult to imagine a simpler, quicker, more noncommittal messaging system that you can use when you're in class or on the go. It appeals to me mostly because I'm very much the stereotypical lazy university student, and it requires the bare minimum of effort.

This brings me to my topic: the "T9" (Text on 9 keys) predictive text function on many mobile phones—a wonderful invention for lazy people like me.

Who has the time to manually spell out what they want to say, sometimes having to push the same key more than twice? Can you imagine the pain of having to resort to multiple button-pressing, along with the confusion caused by trying to insert the smiley face symbol and realizing that you have to separately insert both the colon and the right bracket? What a hectic life we lead.

T9 can actually predict the word—or smiley face—that you're trying to write, by using the combination of keypresses while referencing them to a database of commonly

used words. A program that can read my mind so that I push less buttons? Sign me up.

Of course, it wasn't long before my idealistic imaginings lay shattered around me; I fell to the floor amidst the broken pieces of my predictive-texting dream. In the refractory light, I could see visions of a world where nothing is as you intend it. Where "cool" becomes "book," "me" is now "of," "car" reigns over "bar." I no longer know if I mean "kiss" or "lips," and "crap" becomes the much more urgent "asap."

Who has the time to manually spell out what they want to say, sometimes having to push the same key more than twice?

As I woke from my reverie, I was even more annoyed upon the realization that, more often than not, the T9 version isn't even a word. "Dishowl" is somehow more fitting than "fishbowl," "merc" more relevant than "nerd." And girls, if a boy ever expresses a desire to "dual," my advice is to select him. I mean, reject him. Shiv.

You see what this does? It changes contemporary language itself. Now my friends and I go out for "pushi" on a regular basis. Classmates such as Khalil and Riley become Khakil and Pilealmostovernight. "Econ" becomes

a mild swear word, and "zonino," a legitimate way to express enthusiasm, is transformed into the more western "woohoo." According to Wikipedia, these are called textonyms—or, more appropriately, txtonyms.

While this discussion may seem rather harmless, I must alert you to something more dark and alarming. T9 isn't innocently extending a helping (albeit sloppy and confused) hand to the hapless texters suffering from ABC-derived carpal tunnel syndrome. Oh no, there's a hidden agenda. T9 is perfectly accepting of any middle-class, predominantly white names—especially those that would befit old people in nursing homes—such as my own.

Sarah, Peter, Gertrude, and Bill are all welcomed with open arms, but try a common yet culturally varied name like Abdullah, and T9 spits out "abettlici"—that doesn't even make sense! An attempt at "Omar" comes up with "mobs," which is at least a word, so we'll let it go.

It's not all that bad, I guess. To be fair, predictive texting is more than happy to proffer "Allah," "Buddha," "Islam," "Judaism," and even "Shinto," maybe because overtly religious slights tend to inflame people even more strongly than cultural ones.

Still, the programmers behind T9 need to embrace more cultural variety. If only we weren't so lazy, we could almost organize an online petition to advocate for these changes. Or we could just go out for some "pushi" instead.

Oversized objects put your town on the map

KELSEY
TANASIUK



"We, the city people, realize that small towns are small towns. They don't have massive shopping malls, or go-cart tracks, or a Walmart, and we embrace this fact. It's okay, really, those kinds of things aren't for everyone. The small towns themselves, however, always feel the need to over-compensate."

Yes, Mundare, you can sit down now. We see your giant sausage, and it's very nice.

Sometimes a well-placed, really big (and fairly ugly) monument can really save a town from obscurity. Who can forget Chauvin and their lovely Susie the Softball, or Beiseker and their really big smiley Skunk, "Squirt." But of course, building such an idol requires careful planning—remember, this is your ticket into mainstream culture.

You want something that will force everyone to remember you, even if they do so kicking and screaming. The first option is the obvious one: pick something that matches your town's name. After all, no one ever remembers where that huge chuckwagon is (for the keeners out there, the answer is Dewberry). But who can forget that there's a giant Beaver in Beaverlodge? Or a starship in Vulcan?

Of course, this method is only good for some towns. I mean, how exactly could you build a giant Smokey Lake? or a Calmar? That sounds like a cruel science experiment gone wrong.

Luckily there's always a backup plan: build something your town is famous for. Vilna put up the mushrooms they're named after; Cochrane put up a cowboy to point out that they were home to the first com-

mercial cattle ranch in Alberta; Drumheller has a crap-load of dinosaurs. And hey, Alberta has a lot of Ukrainians! Let's erect a wiener, an egg (*pysanka*, thank you very much) and a perogy (*pyrohy*) while we're at it.

Maybe your town doesn't even have that—but don't give up hope, as there's still the final option: build something completely random. Something that has no reason behind it at all. Build this random thing proud, and build it well—after all, when people come to check out how insane you are, you want to make sure you wow the pants off them. You might want to theme you entire town after it too, as with St Paul's Alien Landing Pad.

It's important to watch your town after building an oversized monument, however, as it can be an addictive process. Some people can't have just one gigantic moose statue. Take Bow Island: they started with one steel sunflower, and soon there were oil derricks and fibreglass pinto bean cowboys all over the place.

It's important to limit yourself lest you end up like Edmonton: a giant mall, steel "peace dove," massive cowboy boot, and big baseball bat? Talk about over-compensation.



MIKE KENDRICK

When I go out, I just want to dance—and be taken hostage

If Edmonton bars want to keep my business, they've got to kick it up a notch

PAUL
BLINOV

I'm a guy who's willing to slither out of my room every so often and spend a quality night on the town. I like to drink, and after my blood-alcohol ratio spikes, I also like to dance. But I find that even the better clubs in town get a little tiresome after the hours pass and my wallet thins—yet another innocent victim of the bar's high prices.

This only matters, of course, if you can get into a bar on a weekend. I hope you club-lovin' first-years have got your ski club cards; without them, you'll find yourself waiting in lines *ad infinitum*, checking your watch every so often to find that you're still outside as 25-cent highball hour passes you by.

What's more, whether alone or with friends, club lineup conversations basically fall into dull variations of these three sentences: "Dude, this line's moving so goddamn slow;" "Dude, we totally should've went to the Ranch—I bet there's no lineup there;" and, "What time is it now, dude?"

Considering that the eventual payoff of actually getting into the bar isn't all that great for me, clubs need to start making it worth my while and dollar by upping the ante.

How you say? By turning to the best available source we have for answers: television.

I crave the excitement that my favourite shows provide me with, not hours of waiting for a sub-par night. Line-ups could be eliminated completely by instituting a series of *Most Extreme Elimination Challenge*-like feats, with the winners earning their rightful place by the bars, and shameful losers having to try, try again.

Even if your alcohol-saturated mind couldn't remember by itself, wouldn't tales of your epic paintball victory sound better than how you puked up your guts in the cab?

Plus, line-ups would be a place of excitement and honour, with some forgoing the bar altogether to repeatedly test their mettle in front of raptured crowds.

Of course, the action inside the bar would also have to be equally as exciting without completely losing the club/bar feel. So what about taking a page from *24* and throwing in an element of ever-present danger?

Bars could hire a group of actors to periodically take the place over like a massive hostage situation—driving

up drink prices in the process—while ski-mask-wearing men would take over the DJ booth and crank out some terrible music. Go Jack Bauer on those fools, however, and your drinks are on the house, and the reinstated DJ spins your requests all night long. Heroics don't go unrewarded, you know.

These are just two television-based ideas. Imagine paying for drinks à la *Price Is Right*, or winning free shots for your excellent marksmanship abilities in a paintball duel. The possibilities are endless, and I guarantee that every single night would be a memorable outing with your friends.

Even if your alcohol-saturated mind couldn't remember by itself, wouldn't tales of your epic paintball victory sound better than how you puked your guts out in the cab?

Some might think I'm missing the point about bars and clubs—namely, drinking and dancing. But both are just two ways of having a good time out and about. If a joint can provide more variety than that, why shouldn't it?

Most bars already have themed nights and events, be they Name That Tune or Wet T-Shirt Wednesdays. But that's a half-hearted attempt at best, and so very generic.

With Whyte Avenue situated right next to campus and a fresh crop of young people looking for things to do, why not combine the somewhat socially acceptable world of clubs and everyone's secret fantasy world of television?

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Canada should stop pushing away international students

DAVID KARP



Martlet (CUP)

Canada has a labour shortage. Heck, it might even have a labour crisis.

A report last January by Human Resources and Social Development Canada identified that there was a severe shortage of workers in many important occupations throughout the country.

This shortage is worst in the health care sector, where Canada is lacking doctors, nurses, pharmacists, medical technicians, and dental assistants.

Jobs in management, oil and gas, construction, computer engineering, and academia are opening up in large numbers, but with no one to fill them. The Canadian Federation of Independent Business estimated that there were 251 000 long-term job vacancies in Canada last year.

With more unfilled jobs in Canada than Saskatoon has people, you'd think that the government would be eager to attract bright young people to our country to earn a degree and start a career.

But think again: after paying a fee of \$125 in order to have their study permit reviewed, a prospective

"Well, at least international students are encouraged to work in Canada after they've earned their degree, right? Wrong. If you want a study visa in this country, you have to convince an immigration officer that you're going to leave Canada after earning your degree."

international student must prove that they have enough money to pay their tuition fees, living expenses, as well as return transportation to their home country. They also pay tuition fees that can be up to three times higher than those paid by other Canadian students—and what's worse, they also can't access the Canada Student Loans program.

To make a Canadian education more affordable for the most talented young immigrants, you'd think we'd set international students to work. Jobs and merit-based scholarships are an international student's only funding options once they get here, as they sometimes aren't eligible for needs-based bursaries or student loans from their schools. Even if they do find a job, they are only allowed to work full-time in the summer.

Well, at least international students are encouraged to work in Canada after they've earned their degree, right? Wrong. If you want a study visa in this country, you have to convince an immigration officer that you're going to leave Canada after earning your degree.

However, despite the requirement of making a promise to leave, international students can still apply for a post-graduate work permit once they're finished school. But they have to find a job first—and they only have 90 days after their last exam is marked to do it, or they're sent home. And it can't be just any job—it must be directly related to the student's degree.

They also need to convince an employer to hire them without being able to commit long-term. Post-graduate work permits last a maximum of two years—one year if the job is in Vancouver, Montreal, or Toronto, or if the student earned their degree there.

It doesn't make sense that these gifted students, who earn scholarships or awards from Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, can't get a work permit.

More than 130 000 international students are attending our universities right now. The country is earning a failing grade at keeping them here, and that's got to change, because more than a quarter of a million jobs are at stake.

From Descartes to Devo

Pop culture classes can connect almost anything

ROBERT COSLETT



The Phoenix (CUP)

While pop-culture courses offer a broad scope of material to study and feature intelligent lectures that make connections between Ice Cube and Derrida interesting, I could only scoff and murmur my frustrations about how the Arts faculty is a load of crap.

Somehow I can't understand how a raver pumping and twisting to Aphex Twin is realizing their "self" according to the mirror stage development of Jacques Lacan. These people pumped and twisted because it was fun—or because they were so high that dancing was simply the best thing ever.

It seems that through these classes, the films and bands I'd enjoyed on a personal level have been stripped of all their fun and reduced to trivia and connections on some broader level that I'm convinced even the artists want no part of.

Studying current cultural trends is vital and can lead to a rewarding understanding of a piece of art, but what might be missing from the study of popular culture is some basic introduction.

Where cultural studies should begin—and with a real focus on contemporary music and film as literature—is at a younger level. High school

could be a better place to start studying rap culture, where the focus of an English class is not just Robert Frost's "The Poison Tree," but also includes a thematic analysis of *Curtis* by 50 Cent or a report on a particular episode of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. I know that I'd be much happier deconstructing an album from a post-structural standpoint now if I had whetted my brain with essays of how 50 Cent's gunshot wounds correspond to particular songs.

Somehow I can't understand how a raver pumping and twisting to Aphex Twin is realizing their "self" according to the mirror stage development of Jacques Lacan.

As a bonus, some kids who would never have bothered otherwise might actually start caring about studying something. My problem with pop culture classes really comes from the fact there aren't enough of them yet.

Let's slip some *Family Guy* into the curriculum and make *Heroes* mandatory viewing. Keeping our education contemporary is necessary, and after all, we're studying this stuff on our own time anyway.

So pop culture profs, it's not like you've done wrong: you've just got to get 'em earlier than a 200-level course.



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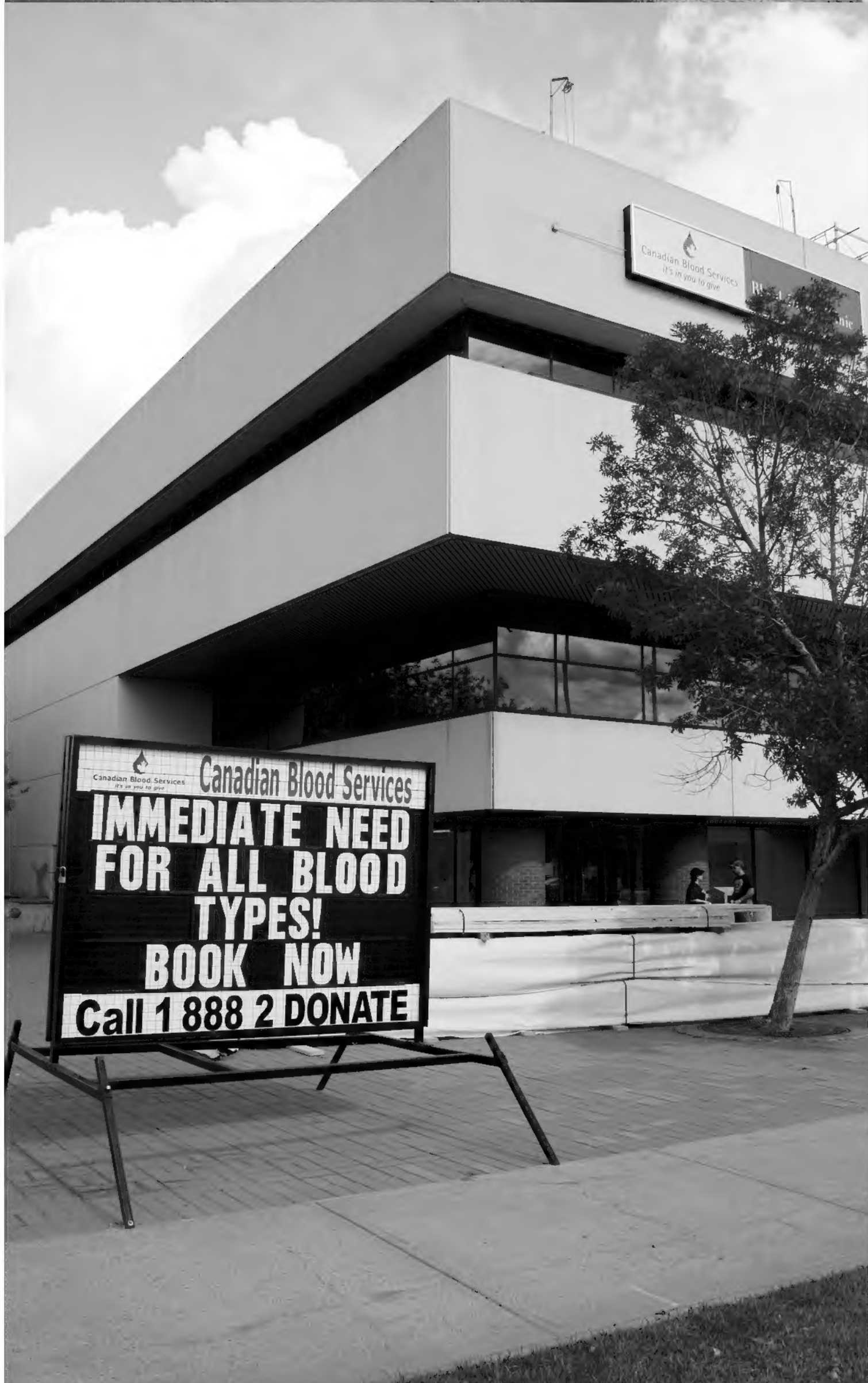
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A Pint of Life

How dwindling inventories at the Canadian Blood Service are creating a high demand for willing donors

WRITTEN BY NATALIE CLIMENHAGA AND RYAN HEISE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY JENNY FROGNER

Imagine getting into a car accident and being rushed to the emergency room. If your injuries are severe enough, there's a good chance one of the first procedures done to you will be a blood transfusion. At this point, your life is now in the hands of potential blood donors—not a very comforting thought, if you look at how many people actually take the time to donate.

Many Canadians take the blood transfusions for granted, and the current shortage has Canadian Blood Services (CBS) scrambling to equilibrate their national inventory.

Candace Korchinsky, communications specialist for CBS, explained that there is typically a dip in collections over the summer months due to people being on holidays. However, this year that drop reached a critical low.

"Right now, we're sitting at our lowest collection levels that we've seen since Canadian Blood Services took over management of the blood supply in 1998," Korchinsky stated.

"We're sitting at about a three- to four-day national inventory, where ideally we like to be sitting at about six days."

Korchinsky explained that across Canada this summer, CBS had about 25 000 cancellations or people who didn't attend their appointments. And for Dr Louis Hugo Francescutti, an emergency room physician at the Royal Alexandra Hospital that number is unacceptable.

"That's pretty appalling that that many people would have to cancel an appointment that they made," Francescutti said, blaming a diminishing sense of selflessness for faltering donor levels.

"Our current society is less interested in doing things than we were in the past. You can see that our sense of community responsibility is very different," he said.

Francescutti added that since it's an invasive procedure, it would be impossible to mandate blood donations, but he stressed that something must be done to reverse the trend of lowering donor turnout.

"The only thing left to do is to try and change society's perception as to why it's important to give," he explained "So maybe we need to do a far better job

explaining that one donation can help so many different people."

Dr Susan Nahirniak, medical director of transfusion services for Capital Health, explained that currently both positive and negative O- and A-group blood are in particularly short supply.

"Right now I think we are operating at a one- to two-day inventory for group O red cells," she said.

Combining the shortage with the already short lifespan of donated blood has compounded the problems that CBS is currently facing.

"If there's anyone that could be giving blood, it's [the younger] generation. Most of them are healthy and don't have blood-borne diseases, but if we can get [that] generation to give blood, that would stand us in good stead."

DR LOUIS HUGO FRANCESCUTTI
EMERGENCY ROOM PHYSICIAN

Korchinsky explained that with every donation, the whole blood gets separated into three different components: red blood cells, plasma, and platelets. Red blood cells last 42 days, plasma about a year, and platelets only five days.

"So the shelf life really isn't that long for blood products," she said. "Typically, when you come in on one day and you donate blood, for the most part that unit of blood that you give on that day is most likely going to be used up within the span of about one week."

But when dealing with shortages, Nahirniak explained that physicians are faced with the challenge of providing adequate care without adequate supply.

"When we're short in terms of the products, we may end up switching blood groups for people if they come in in a trauma; there's the possibility that we would cancel or postpone certain surgeries; and for patients who are in ICU, we will press the clinicians

to closely re-evaluate and use alternate agents other than blood products," Nahirniak said.

And while switching blood groups may be the only way to save certain patients, it can create long-term problems. In women of child-bearing age, it can cause complications in future pregnancies, and in the event that that individual was to come in at a later date for another transfusion, their body would likely react against it.

However, Francescutti pointed his finger at the younger generation of potential donors to help solve the blood shortage problem.

"If there's anyone that could be giving blood, it's [the younger] generation. Most of them are healthy and don't have blood-borne diseases, but if we can get [that] generation to give blood, that would stand us in good stead," he said.

And with an aging baby boomer population, Nahirniak also noted that students are the ideal donor group.

"They're the prime group that we want to get because most of our donors are older, and so we'd like to get more of the younger population in and get them to become dedicated donors. So if they can start and continue, that would be wonderful."

"Even though over the past couple weeks Canadians have definitely answered our call for the immediate-need messaging, we still have a lot of work to do in terms of keeping those donations up there and continuing to increase the collections over the next several weeks," Korchinsky added.

But while the immediate focus is on alleviating the current shortage, equal attention is being paid to trying to prevent further lapses in the future.

"It's an issue that needs discussion; it's an issue that needs some resolution to it, and the more we can discuss it, the more we can hopefully convince people to try to give blood," Francescutti said.

"That unit of blood will make an enormous difference in either a child's life who has leukemia, or a woman who delivered a baby and had problems afterwards and she's bleeding, or a severely traumatized patient," Francescutti explained.

"It literally does save lives."



This won't hurt a bit

A relatively painless personal account of blood donation

The process of donating blood isn't as arduous as you might think. Though the experience will differ depending on your health, your blood pressure, the size of your veins, the amount of fluid and food you've consumed prior to donating, and a myriad of other technical factors that are mostly out of your control, the whole process usually only takes about 60 minutes.

Still, the thought of donating blood can be a bit off-putting for some people, so your intrepid Gateway news editors, Natalie Climenhaga and Ryan Heise (both returning donors), ventured to Canadian Blood Services' (CBS) main location just south of the University hospital to donate blood last Saturday, as well as to get a refresher course in what it's like to give what's in you to give.

First things first: make an appointment. While CBS can accommodate a certain amount of walk-ins, making an appointment will guarantee a spot for you and make the process that much easier and quicker, so you're not sitting around a waiting room all afternoon.

When you arrive, you'll check in with a receptionist and receive an information booklet and number. The booklet outlines certain factors that may put you at risk for HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, and other blood-borne viruses. It also clarifies what CBS considers as sex (note: it's different than Bill Clinton's version). If you're a first-timer, giving the booklet a quick perusal while you wait for the first available nurse will be beneficial.

The fun begins when a nursing station opens up. After pulling up your information on a computer, the nurse will prick your finger, draw a small sample of blood, and drop it into a copper-sulfate solution to test your metal (that is, your iron level). While neither of us eat much meat, both of our samples plummeted to the bottom of the vile, making us ideal candidates.

After that, you'll complete a short questionnaire regarding any previous blood transfusions and out-of-country travel, as well as your sexual history. The questions are relatively straightforward, save for a few oddities, such as whether or not you've "taken care of or handled monkeys

or their body fluids." While CBS does test your blood for viruses, this survey helps them to know if there is anything that makes you more at risk for certain afflictions.

Following this quiz, you'll enter a private room with another nurse. Here, they will ask you more personal questions regarding your sexual history and drug use. While some of the questions—"Have you ever had sex for drugs?", "Have you ever had sex with someone whose sexual history you don't know?", and "Have you ever taken drugs via a needle, even once?", for example—might make you a tad sheepish, CBS needs to thoroughly screen all donors for safety reasons.

Having the needle inserted into your arm is indeed the most painful part of the whole procedure. But a small prick, sometimes followed by a numb sensation, is all that you're likely to feel—and before you know it, your red gold begins to flow through the clear, surgical tubing into the bag below

A final precaution that they take is allowing you to privately place a discrete "yes" or "no" barcode on your donation. This measure is taken in case you were uncomfortable answering some of the questions truthfully and are still worried your blood might be unsafe. If you place the "no" sticker on your papers, you will still go through the donation process, but the barcode will be scanned, and CBS will know not to use your blood afterwards. It still won't be a waste, either, as blood unfit for donation is still used by CBS for testing purposes.

After this interview, the show really gets rolling. You'll hop up into a comfy, dentist-esque chair and yet another nurse will come prep you for donation. The

area on your arm where the needle will be inserted is cleaned, and your bag is prepped. Now comes the part you've all been waiting for (and probably dreading): the needle.

Having the needle inserted into your arm is indeed the most painful part of the whole procedure. But a small prick, sometimes followed by a numb sensation, is all that you're likely to feel—and before you know it, your red gold begins to flow through the clear, surgical tubing into the bag below.

This is also the point at which some donors get rejected: some people's veins collapse due to the drop in pressure, or else they become too lightheaded too continue.

How long it takes to fill your 610g bag is, again, contingent on many personal factors, and everyone will have a slightly different experience; while Ryan's blood flowed like Niagara Falls, taking around five minutes to complete, Natalie's came much slower, and even came close to stopping a few times. While the nurse was ready to end the procedure on a couple of occasions, Natalie eventually made it to 610g after about 15 minutes. To expedite this part of the procedure, make sure you're very hydrated prior to donating.

During your drain, a nurse will take a few samples of your blood for testing. You can't get these back—we asked. After you're done, the needle will be removed painlessly, and you'll need to stay put for a tedious five minutes. Tedious because once it's over, it's open season on free cookies, juice, coffee, tea, and even homemade soup to get your bloodsugar levels back up after donating. That's right: you're *supposed* to eat sugary foods afterwards—pretty much the only chance you'll ever get to say that.

Once you've sufficiently gorged yourself on Oreos and apple juice, you're pretty much done. If all goes well, the whole event should take just under an hour.

Then you can sit back, enjoy the thought that you may have helped save a life, and get ready for your next appointment 56 days later, when you can do it all again.

Basic Eligibility for Blood Donation

Identification

Identification with full name and signature, or full name and photograph is required. For returning donors, your CBS-issued donor card is all you need.

Age

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Weight

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Frequency of Donation

Minimum interval between blood donations is 56 days.

Health

In general, good health and feeling well is required. You should have had something to eat and adequate sleep beforehand. You must also meet hemoglobin (iron) requirements (test done at the clinic).

Donating blood does not put you at risk of disease. All needles are sterile, and used only before being discarded. The usual blood collection—a "unit"—is about half a litre, or one pint. Your body soon replaces all the blood you donate.

Source: www.bloodservices.ca

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

GrimSkunk

with Mervyn Albin and First Aid Kit
Friday, 14 September at 8pm
Starlite Room

Formed in 1988, GrimSkunk played a pivotal role in establishing Quebec's alternative scene along with Groovy Aardvark, their similarly monikered brethren. Incorporating punk, rock, and several other genres along with a selection of languages, these feisty vermin just released *Fires Under the Road*. The album is being hailed by fans as a return to their original sound after their last release led to accusations of selling out—though I'm not sure how many people would take you seriously if you told them that GrimSkunk totally sold out.

Giselle

National Ballet of Canada Performance
18-19 September at 8pm
Jubilee Auditorium

We've all seen it: that eye-opening and attention-grabbing ad in the LRT station of the ballet girl being covered up by two male dancers. Instead of awkwardly staring at that while waiting for the train, why not take in the actual ballet? It's definitely more socially acceptable and, like the ad proclaims, allows you to get closer to the action.

Giselle tells the tale of a peasant girl whose lover cheats on her. Heartbroken, she dies and ends up in the world of Wilis, a land for deceived women. The role of Giselle is also known in the world of ballet as one of the most technically demanding in the business, so expect a good show.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo

Saturday, 15 September at 8pm
Winspear Centre

When you've been referenced in a *Family Guy* joke, you know you've hit it big—at least with mainstream culture—but this quintessential African singing group has always been significant to their home country of South Africa. Running since 1960 and still led by the man who started it, the group 's amassed an impressive collection of over a dozen Grammys and even an Academy Award. They've also recorded over 50 albums, making the concept of being a Mambazo completist sounds like an exercise in masochism.

Mavis Staples

Sunday, 16 September at 3pm
Winspear Centre

A 40-year veteran in the music business, soul legend and civil rights activist Mavis Staples graces the Winspear stage this week. Called "the epitome of soul" by fellow soul rock heavyweight Prince, Mrs Staples is touring in support of her new album *Have a Little Faith*. The show is a tribute to another famous American soul and gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson.

Green Planet Concert Series

Featuring Art Garfunkel

Sunday, 16 September at 7:30pm
Jubilee Auditorium

The lovable, afro-sporting half of Simon and Garfunkel is hitting Edmonton this weekend with his own mini version of Live Earth. The Green Planet Concert series benefits the Pembina Institute, an environmental think-tank that deals with policy research related to sustainable development and climate change.

JOHN KMECH
Loves Ween's *Quebec* album



Nights of the improvising dead

Mark Meer and Kurt Smeaton discuss staying on a stage for 53 hours—and the ensuing hallucinations

theatrepreview

Die-Nasty's 53-Hour Improvised Soap-A-Thon

Starts Friday, 14 September at 6pm and runs until Sunday, 16 September at 11pm
Varscona Theatre
Tickets available at the Vascona box office

PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Editor

"It's a lot of fun ... wait. I've got to come up with a better ending quote than 'It's a lot of fun,' Mark Meer, longtime Die-Nasty cast member, fumbles. A pause. "It's like doing acid!" he tries, before giving up. "It's whatever."

The "it" in question is neither childlike play nor chemical drugs, although the unabashed silliness of the former and hallucinatory effects of the latter may show through; Meer is referring to Die-Nasty's annual 53-hour improvised Soap-A-Thon, wherein a double-digit cast attempt to coherently improvise a storyline for more than two days straight. While audiences can doze off—and, if they've purchased a weekend pass, leave and come back whenever they choose—most of the cast are dedicated to keeping their eyelids open the entire time.

Meer, who first completed the gruelling weekend more than a decade ago (and every year thereafter) seems comfortable at the thought of another weekend of self-imposed insomnia. In fact, he seems all too eager to do it once more.

"It just gets easier every year," Meer explains. "This is the eleventh time I've done it all the way through ... I think it just wears a new groove in your brain [that] just allows you to snap into that and keep going. And remain coherent."

The basic plot is already laid out: this year, the on-stage action will revolve around the fictional town of Cadaver, where a big-city film crew has arrived to begin shooting a zombie movie. As the hours drag on and the plot thickens endlessly, specialty hours occur, such as the intriguing Hours of Gratuitous Nudity, which offers sex-free naked bodies, and the G-rated Family Hours, which offer wholesome fun for all ages.

"Basically, we create an entire self-sustaining universe that we then ultimately destroy. It's just a great experience, lots of fun ... getting to play a character for that long, you really get to explore the different narratives and all the ins and outs of the character."

MARK MEER
DIE-NASTY CAST MEMBER

Besides these themed, potentially buck naked moments, the weekend is a very condensed version of Die-Nasty's regular weekly soap opera. But Meer welcomes the lengthy weekend in its own right as the longest chance he gets to remain in a character.

"[What keeps me going is] just getting to live in that world," Meer says. "Basically, we create an entire self-sustaining universe that we then ultimately destroy. It's just a great experience, lots of fun ... getting to play a character for that long, you really get to explore the different narratives and all the ins and outs of the character."

Kurt Smeaton, an actor from the now defunct

Holmes Show and current Soap-A-Thon player, echoes this sentiment.

"[The Soap-A-Thon] becomes this real study in how to sustain a character," he notes. "By the end of the show, you're no longer making up history; there's so much shared history with the cast and your character that you no longer have to make anything up; everything's already happened [onstage] ... you're referencing points from before."

Smeaton's returning from Toronto to make his second stab at the Soap-A-Thon after getting hooked last year, and he's not the only out-of-towner to make the trek. The Soap-A-Thon's become what Meer refers to as "an improv pilgrimage," drawing the bravest improvisers from around the world to put their theatrical stamina to the test. And as Smeaton notes, not all of them hold up so well.

"There was a group from England last year ... and the [Soap-A-Thon]'s theme last year was the wedding," he recalls. "At one point I had taken all the wedding gifts offstage, and one of the guys backstage said 'Good idea!' and started punching the wall. I asked 'What are you doing?' and he said 'I thought I was supposed to beat up that robot.'" He had actually started hallucinating."

There's the acid trip Meer referred to, and when you consider the sheer immensity of 53 hours—that's 190 800 seconds—perhaps his hurried words at the end of our phone call ring completely true: by pushing its improvisers to such an extreme, the Soap-A-Thon can truly only be described as "whatever."

Check out next Thursday's Gateway to read Arts & Entertainment Editor Paul Blinov's account of taking in the Soap-A-Thon in its entirety, armed only with a laptop and a few changes of clothing.

Playwright-in-residence at home with being ‘in-house dramateur’

SARAH MALIK
Arts & Entertainment Writer

We tend to stereotype the creative process as a sacred affair, where the creator works in isolation from those to whom his written revelations will come, and whose probably a snappy, Scrooge-like character. But Kevin Kerr, the new playwright-in residence for the Department of Drama, is a man who seems content to sit and chat while being framed by the cacophony of children’s raucous playing—there is a playground outside his HUB Mall office—and who appears at home in the brightly lit room.

“I love the fact that I’ve got a place to work,” Kerr says, expressing satisfaction with his environment and with the sense of family in the Drama department. Originally from Vancouver, where he was part of the Electric Company Theatre, he paints Edmonton as having a great reputation for its theatre community and art scene.

Kerr himself is no stranger to recognition, having won the Governor General’s Award for his play *Unity* (1918). The university awarded him a two-year contract by the university for his playwright-in-residence term—only the second in the history of the pioneering Lee Program. During his residency, Kerr will split his time between his own writing and doing projects within or related to the Department of Drama.

“I am an ‘in-house dramateur,’ and will be giving feedback to playwriting students and people in the community who are interested in theatre,” Kerr says. “There is a definite community liaison component to this job.”

Most importantly, Kerr has been commissioned by the University to write a play for the twelve students who are now entering their first year of the BFA program.

“It’s exciting for me to tailor-make a play for a large cast, and it’s a great opportunity for acting students to watch a project develop from essentially nothing to a full play, and see the steps along the way,” he explains.

Superstitious about discussing his ideas for the play, which will be performed in 2010, so early in the



ERINNE FENWICK

THAT’S ALL HE WROTE Kevin Kerr doesn’t fear the dreaded “writer’s block.”

game, Kerr is tight-lipped on what it will be about.

“Theatre is a collaborative art form, which makes it risky because it relies on the synergy of people coming together, but also creates a wonderful safety net because you’re not alone in the process.”

KEVIN KERR
PLAYWRIGHT-IN-RESIDENCE

He admits, however, to an interest in the outsider archetype, the concept of an individual on the fringe, and his past plays have explored the impact of science and technology on society, often in a historical context. Kerr says

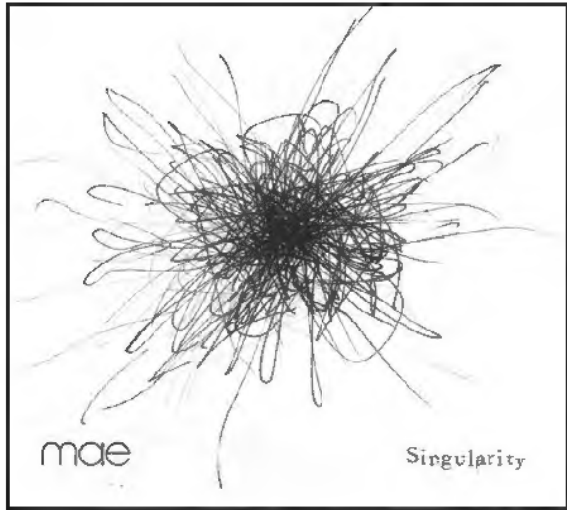
he will begin developing the play after getting to know his ready-made student acting company.

“I want to feed off of the students’ energy Theatre is a collaborative art form, which makes it risky because it relies on the synergy of people coming together, but also creates a wonderful safety net because you’re not alone in the process,” He explains.

Kerr also seems somewhat nonchalant about writer’s block—the scourge of so many writers—considering that the infamous mental freeze has compelled untold numbers of authors to spend years on a single work.

“You’re going to jinx me,” he laughs about blanking during the writing process, before adopting a more serious tone.

“There are no guarantees really. There is always a feeling that everything is high-stakes. We have to embrace ‘the mortal dread;’ [we] have to own it and live with it.”



albumreview

Mae
Singularity
Capitol Records

SOPHIA BURAK
Arts & Entertainment Writer

On *Singularity*, Mae’s third full-length release, the Virginia band seems to be trying a little too hard. A few of the tracks show earnestness, but the band needs to learn that every single lyric and chord doesn’t have to be steeped in meaning and metaphor. Words are fun, and making music should be as well.

Singularity’s attempts at deep, soulful songs grow tiresome quickly, and most tracks feel like they run together along the same musical path. Maybe that was Mae’s intention—to release a coherent, level album—but a bit

of contrast between tracks would’ve brought out their different flavours and provided a more well-rounded listen than *Singularity*’s one-track mind does.

The lyrics, aside from being weighted down with overwrought emotion, are sung like the singer learned his craft from William Shatner. The vocals stem from a terribly dry monotone: any differences in tone are subtle, and any individuality in the songs or inflections present are impossible to pick up. It’s too bad it isn’t Shatner on vocals, in fact; that would have

at least given this album a boost of star power, and given Mae an excuse for such expressionless delivery.

This album is cluttered and bogged down by way too many metaphors. Clearly, Mae was feeling too artsy for their own good. Who wants to listen to music that sounds the same from track to track: over-thought, over-produced, and just dull?

“Emo” is supposed to be emotional music: at once deep and thoughtful, and genuinely moving. *Singularity* achieves none of these things, as every single track fails to catch and hold the listener’s attention. Ultimately, *Singularity* has all the personality of toast without jam, and the overwrought emotional push causes the album to come off as silly at best. In fact, *Singularity* flips Shatner’s *Star Trek* credo: The album will neither live long in your iTunes playlists, nor will it help Mae prosper.

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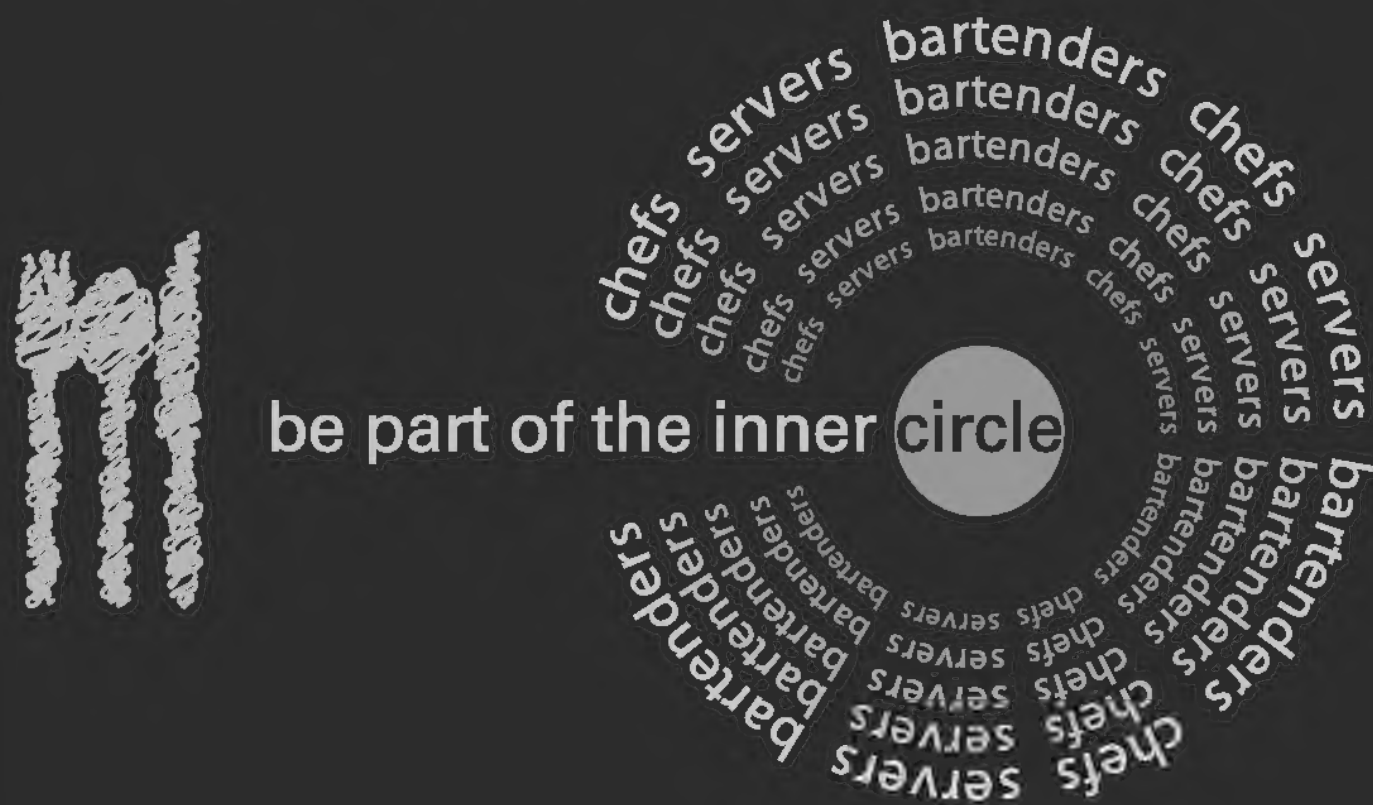


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13 years of psychobilly freakouts

musicpreview

The Deadcats

with *Season of Nightmares* and *the Benders*
Saturday, 15 September at 8pm
Velvet Underground

MIKE SMITH

Arts & Entertainment Staff

It's been a long road for Vancouver's The Deadcats. They've been rocking our side of the country with their personal brand of psychobilly-meets-surf-rock since 1994, and in those 13 years, they've seen their micro-genre blossom into a full-blown, world-spanning scene.

These days, you can find numerous psychobilly bands covering the Canadian landscape, and the fashion statements their members and fans alike have brought back are instantly recognizable.

Any of the hot-rod-driving, tattooed, slick-haired guys with their Bette Davis look-a-like girlfriends that you see around town represent the growth of the psychobilly scene. To some, seeing a burly dude driving a '50s hot rod or a chopper might be intimidating, but according to Deadcats frontman Michael Dennis, those guys aren't so bad.

"We get along well with the hot rod guys ... we're friends with a lot of those guys," Dennis laughs.

For those who are unfamiliar with the genre, psychobilly is an eclectic mixture of rockabilly beats with punk timings and style. For many years, the genre has languished as a small, struggling underground scene, but in recent



years has grown relatively popular, making the payoff for bands like the The Deadcats a sweet one.

"We were the very first band in Canada to start doing [psychobilly], so they hadn't been exposed to that much," Dennis claims, about the genre's slow rise. "Now, it's grown to the point where guys like us or the Gutter Demons can go on cross-Canada tours."

Much of this rise can be attributed to psychobilly torch-bearers Tiger Army. Ever since that band was signed to the popular Hellcat Records in 1999, acts like The Deadcats have seen concert ticket sales multiply. With their most recent release, Tiger Army has even managed to pull some heavy radio-rotation for the genre.

"If Tiger Army hadn't been signed to Hellcat ... we wouldn't be playing right now," Dennis admits. "With the rise of psychobilly and MySpace, our crowds [have] doubled."

Still, it hasn't been an easy journey for

the band. They've gone through many different members over the last decade, but have finally lost enough blood, sweat, and guitar strings to almost guarantee a good crowd wherever they go. And while critics point fingers at Tiger Army for taming their sound to appeal to the mass market, fans of The Deadcats need not worry about the band selling out. Dennis doesn't appear to expect—or want—any more success than the group has already achieved.

"We're just too raunchy, and we mix too many styles of music in there, even for the psychobilly people," Dennis states. "I also don't think most psychobilly will become too popular ... it's just too strange."

With their pure eclectic sound and ideals, The Deadcats personify the left-leaning urges of the genre. But anyone who has yet to experience the psychobilly couldn't choose a better introduction—The Deadcats promise one hell of a show.

THE GATEWAY PRESENTS... GREAT MOMENTS IN PHOTO HISTORY



On 30 October, 1961, the Soviet Union detonated the largest nuclear weapon ever constructed: the Tsar Bomba. History remembers this event as a show of power from one superpower to another.

In actuality, the device was constructed at the behest of Pravda, the state-owned newspaper. The goal: to provide fill flash on an astronomical scale and create a photograph of the moon like none ever seen before. Unfortunately, the Soviet scientists failed to consider that flash power diminishes with the square of distance.

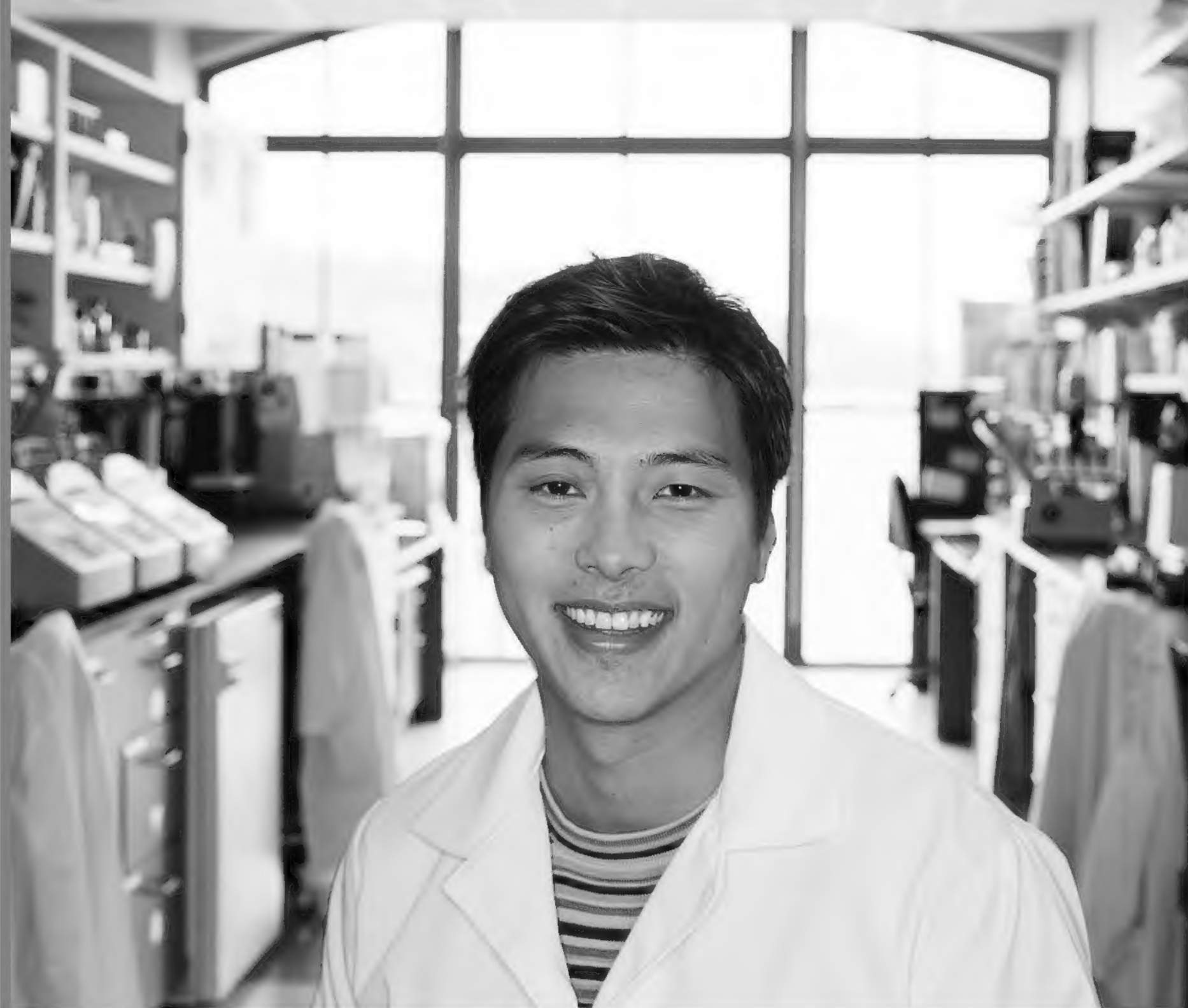
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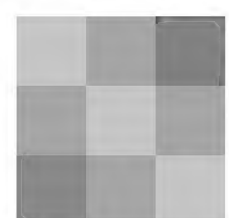
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Elixxxrs offer up tasty ska brew

musicpreview

The Elixxxrs
with the Level Six Elves
Friday, 14 September at 8pm
Velvet Underground

MIKE SMITH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Remember ska? While many might consider the genre a thing of the past, an entire generation of musicians that grew up in its heyday are starting to come of age and work to effectively integrate ska into their own, modern styles. This doesn't just mean MuchMusic-approved ska typical of the mid to late '90s—performed by bands like Reel Big Fish and vintage No Doubt—but rather the original ska, born in reggae dance halls as far back as the '60s.

Vancouver's The Elixxxrs have taken this decades-old influence and morphed it into a bubbly, groovy dance sound. Lead vocalist/guitarist Bobbi-Jo Moore thinks the world is ripe for a revival of the ska scene.

"In the '90s we were into the third wave of ska ... a lot of punk ska," she explains. "Now, we're seeing a lot of

bands doing ska reggae, funk ska, ska rock ... it doesn't seem to be based as much on ska-punk as it was in the past few years."

This new brand of ska has opened the genre to a lot of new fans, assimilating them into the old batch of hardcore fans along the way.

Many music fans fondly remember The Wolfnote, a local Edmonton act that straddled the lines between multiple styles, yet managed to stitch them all together effectively; The Elixxxrs hope to do the same. Describing the group as a combination of ska, pop-rock, reggae, and rockabilly, Moore believes they can appeal to a large potential fanbase.

"Our music has many influences, so we appeal to a large amount of the listening population," she says. "We've played with bands in those genres, and it works really well."

Finishing off a western Canadian tour—including a show at Victoria's Ska Festival—the band has also done a cross-country tour, and this will be their third time playing in the City of Champions. While some might consider their music to be a niche genre, Moore's experience has shown her that as long as you play quality—and more importantly, fun—music,

people will come out to your gigs, even in the smaller towns that dot our prairie-stretched country.

"I find the shows in the smaller towns—in the mountains—a lot busier than the city shows," Moore notes. "It seems we get more people out to those shows. I find [with] the people in the smaller towns, everyone wants to go out to a show on a Saturday night."

However, while they are still building a fanbase in the larger centres, Moore thinks that will come with time—and more touring, of course.

"People in larger cities might not always want to go to those indie [shows] ... luckily for them, it may be ripe time for ska revival," she claims.

With the growing popularity of ska-and-reggae-tinged bands, many new fans are starting to trigger a resurgence in the genre's popularity. Moore, at least, sees a bright future for the genre, even though the world's initial infatuation with ska has passed.

"Lately, there's been a new wave of people interested in coming to see ska shows," Moore says. "Most of the time you go to ska shows, you see a lot of the same faces, but we've been seeing a lot new faces, and I hope it will continue to increase."

I got 99 problems, and gangstas are one



JAMES
BROTHERIDGE

"Now, the large majority of rap artists who get chart play have succumbed to staid convention. the much-maligned and popular 'bitches and bling' music video has even passed self-parody. Now, it's just boring."

I can't pin down a moment for the shift, but suddenly mainstream rappers are wholly uninspiring. They be frontin', if you will.

From the 50 Cents to the Lil' Jons, there rarely comes a big-name and fresh-faced rap artist who seems to know just what the hell he or she is doing. And you know that it's a sorry state of affairs once a British, home-grown rap variant—grime—is creatively lapping MCs on both of coasts of North America.

Seemingly, things used to be better. Throughout the years, there have been standout hip-hop artists and groups like Run-DMC, NWA, and Public Enemy, who've been working to push the boundaries of the genre while making enjoyable music. These are all immensely creative acts who, while working in the freshest of genres, managed to top one another constantly with a never-ending array of studio and lyrical inventiveness. Now, the large majority of rap artists who get chart play have succumbed

to staid convention. The much-maligned and popular "bitches and bling" music video has even passed the point of self-parody. Now, it's just boring.

This might be mostly informed by some misguided sense of nostalgia. Of course, there have been sub-standard rap artists through the years, and looking back, it will always be the biggest and best of the genre who will stand out in the pantheon of artists.

But we can fix this, and here's how: before these guys get started, we throw them in a work placement program. For a period lasting about the same as a normal school year, they will be hounded by the likes of Reverend Run and Terminator X who will unrelentingly beat—physically or emotionally—any foolish ideas of fast cars and carefree lifestyles from their heads and force them to either step up their game or step down altogether.

The two most innovative major-label hip-hop artists are easily R Kelly and Kanye West. Kelly is an oddity, a man who managed to sustain a career by just talking about having sex with ladies in ridiculous ways with no concept of structure or reason, as evidenced by his declaration of being a "sexasaurus" on his latest album. He gets by mostly on nonsense.

West, on the other hand, proves my point perfectly. Though certainly a self-made and hard-working man, he had the benefit of Jay-Z's guidance in the early stages of his career before he exploded into the musical world. Even today, West still has an obvious reverence for the man who showed him the ropes.

Some rappers would say they wouldn't need teaching from the greats; that they were "schooled by the streets." If that's the case, then the streets are obviously a shitty teacher. Sit all these fools down in a room with Chuck D for a few hours, and he'll sort them out.

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THE GATEWAY

volume XCVIII number 4 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ thursday, 13 september, 2007



RYAN SHIPPELT

Bear Scat divides SU Exec

RYAN HEISE
Deputy News Editor

Tuesday evening's Students' Council meeting revealed a clear division in the Students' Union Executive regarding the organization's stance on whether or not to fund Bear Scat.

The contention came from a political policy that Council passed on 12 June regarding the SU's official stance on the supplementary online registration program. In it, the final line of the policy read, "Be it further resolved that support of Bear Scat will not burden students or the Students' Union."

Many councillors felt that this line limited the SU's options for dealing with the issue of supporting Bear Scat and advocating to the University to improve Bear Tracks.

As such, Vice-President (External) Steven Dollansky and Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Eamonn Gamble made a motion to rescind the final line of the political policy.

PLEASE SEE **BEAR SCAT** ♦ PAGE 2

SURE THEY'RE NOT LA-Z-BOYS But Students' Council is plagued with 17 vacant seats—they might not be comfy, but the SU needs to fill them. See story page 5.

First edition of *Pride and Prejudice* found in U of A library

AMANDA ASH
News Staff

Hidden at the foot of two marble staircases, the Bruce Peel Special Collections Library isn't a place many students venture. For starters, few even know it exists, and those who do have likely approached it with caution, peering over the railings and down into the basement's dim lighting, not knowing what mysterious objects lie behind its plain looking doors.

Inside this curious library, though, it's a totally different story. Finished wood, sparkling glass walls, and gold-plated banisters add a bit of flair and elegance to a place where many precious—not to mention old and expensive—books call home. And for good reason: lining the walls are display cases neatly arranged with worn, tattered, and ultimately sought-after novels and documents that any avid reader would drool over.

As of late, there's been a recent addition to this cherished family of exhibited works that many students, as well as members of the public, will be interested in: an 1818, first-edition copy of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* which was simply found sitting unprotected on one of Special Collections' shelves.

On Wednesday, 12 September, this copy of *Pride and Prejudice*, along with a hand-made preservation case, was dedicated to the memory of Dr Bruce Stovel. Stovel, passed away 12 January 2007, and was a highly influential English and Film Studies professor, as well as a renowned Jane Austen scholar.

"The University Library purchased a first edition of the three-decker novel *Pride and Prejudice* in the '60s sometime."

JEANNINE GREEN
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARIAN

With Special Collections Librarians on hand and members of Friends of the University of Alberta in tow, Stovel's wife, Professor Nora Stovel, received the book and its case with gratitude. Now, her own personal "Mr Darcy" will be remembered—and preserved—forever.

Jeannine Green, Special Collections Librarian, said the book's history is nearly as extensive as the late Stovel's

accomplishments, making the dedication that much more appropriate.

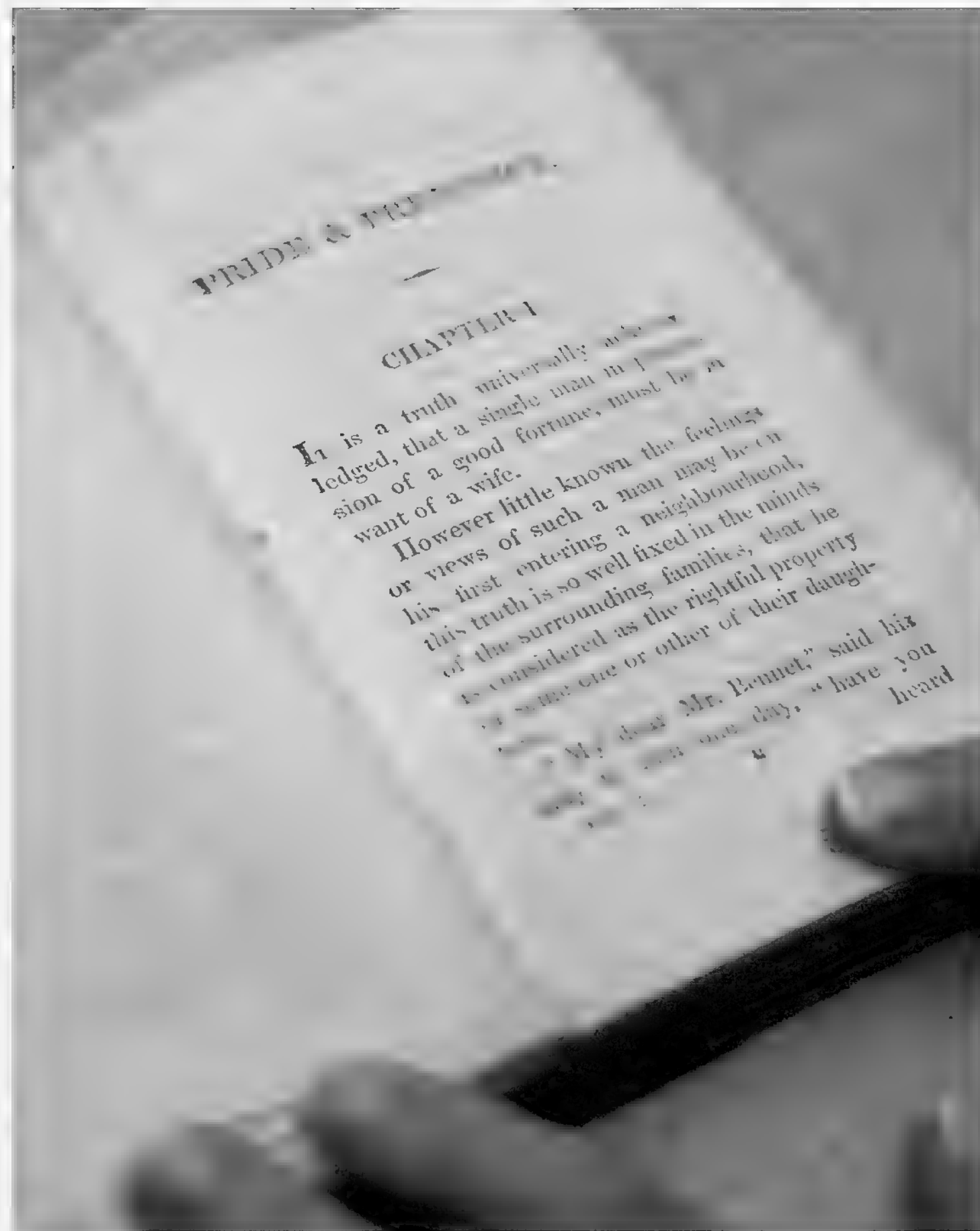
"The University Library purchased a first edition of a three-decker novel *Pride and Prejudice* in the '60s sometime," Green explained. "It's a wonderful copy, complete with a half-title. Many 19th-century binders removed that half-title after the fall-out page, and it doesn't really matter to anybody else except those who care about books."

According to Green, Austen first started writing the novel in 1796, with the working title *First Impressions*. Austen's father submitted it to a publisher in 1797, and it was turned down, but after her success with *Sense and Sensibility*—which was published in 1811—she heavily edited the text and change the title to *Pride and Prejudice*.

No one knows for certain, but according to Green, there were only approximately 1500 copies printed of the first edition, of which this copy is one. It sold out, was the best seller of its day, and went on to be printed in many successive editions.

According to Green, the Friends of the University of Alberta, a not-for-profit organization, commissioned local bookbinder Alex McGuckin to build a specialized preservation case.

PLEASE SEE **AUSTEN** ♦ PAGE 6



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

DREAMING OF DARCY Austen lovers can now get their hands on a classic.

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Give blood ...

Two *Gateway* editors roll up their sleeves and shed some blood to help strangers across Canada.

FEATURE, PAGE 14-15



... or Die Nasty

These guys and girls want to want to keep you up all night long. Then all day, then all night again. And again.

A&E, PAGE 16



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David Bowie

In 1967, David Bowie released his self-titled debut album, which was only the beginning of the greatest career in musical history. It wasn't an immediate smash hit, but if he hadn't taken that first step, who knows where he would have ended up?

Now, in 2007, Gateway A&E is waiting for you to stroll up to the office some Thursday at 5, take an assignment, and begin your own foray into the rock-and-roll world of entertainment journalism. Theatre, music, art ...who knows where you'll rise to?



GATWAY A&E

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albumreview

A Fine Frenzy
One Cell in the Sea
Virgin

KRISTINA DE GUZMAN
Arts & Entertainment Staff

It's nearly impossible to hear *One Cell in the Sea* and get over the fact that the woman responsible for the lyrics, music, and the piano-pounding of A Fine Frenzy, Alison Sudol, is only a tender 22-years-old. Yet somehow she creates and performs her music with a creative skill and a sense of maturity that most people her age can't do without the help of co-songwriters.

Some critics have described the album as "haunted," and this can

only be referring to the echo-filled track "Rangers." Epic would be a more fitting description for this record, however: *One Cell in the Sea's* lyrics are metaphorical and story-like—especially on "Minnow & the Trout"—and while the majority of the album's themes focus mostly on failed romance, it never becomes a tired idea. Sudol's voice delivers enough emotion to make you truly believe what she's saying, and she doesn't rely on diva-like

moments to capture your interest.

Sudol's voice goes from high to low in subtle ways, and adding inflections that resemble those of a much older, highly trained vocalist. Her songs also don't follow a strict formula but seem to change sounds and ideas as each goes on. At times, glimpses of Canadian pianist/singer-songwriter Chantal Kreviazuk come through, at least vocally—Kreviazuk doesn't use orchestral instruments to the same extent.

But Sudol is just difficult to compare to anyone. Listing her influences—Ella Fitzgerald, Keane, and Sigur Rós, to name a few—doesn't completely manage to sum up what her music is like, either. Not that an incomparable new artist is a bad thing. On the contrary, it's refreshing to see a young singer-songwriter seem like they actually know what they're doing on the first try.



albumreview

Baby Elephant
Turn My Teeth Up!
Godforsaken Music Inc

BRYAN SAUNDERS
Arts & Entertainment Staff

When a baby elephant is born, it hasn't started to grow its tusks, and because it lacks that valuable ivory, it's usually seen as worthless to poachers. The term "baby elephant," therefore, can be interpreted as meaning insignificant, and having nothing valuable to offer.

Oddly enough, Prince Paul, Bernie Worrel, and Newkirk, the three members of funk band Baby Elephant, seem to embrace this meaning. Their album, *Turn My Teeth Up!*, actually

starts with a skit in the vein of *Indiana Jones* or *Relic Hunter*.

In the sketch, Prince and Newkirk are mere musical novices—baby elephants, so to speak—still searching high and low for "the way of the funk." The witty little skits continue intermittently throughout the album, and as they progress, "Master" Bernie teaches Prince and Newkirk that "funk is not learned—it's felt."

Just as the skits explore what constitutes funk, so do the tracks on

Turn My Teeth Up! "Plainfield" is a slow-paced rap track flirting with the genre of jazz; meanwhile, the track "Cool Runnins" is heavily reggae-inspired. The song most likely to get some radio play and most worth checking out, however, is "How Does the Brainwave?" Featuring David Byrne of the Talking Heads, it's a head-bobbing, toe-tapping, and almost hypnotic mid-tempo dance track.

Despite this wide variation in styles, there is a consistent, underlying element of funk throughout the album. As Master Bernie reveals to Prince and Newkirk in one of the later skits, funk manifests itself in all musical styles. With all these important lessons learned, it doesn't seem that Baby Elephant will be an infant for long. In fact, judging from *Turn My Teeth Up!*, they may already be sporting a pair of tusks.



albumreview

Ann Wilson
Hope & Glory
Zoë

KATHERINE BELL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Remember Heart? You know, those lovely ladies who created "Barracuda" and "Crazy on You," leading to many a rock & roll-induced neck sprain? Well, frontwoman Ann Wilson is back, solo, and has decided to lend her distinctive growl to some of the best songs ever written. From Led Zeppelin's "Immigrant Song" to John Lennon's "Isolation," the list of songs Wilson has set out to conquer is a challenge.

Considering the songs themselves are beyond reproach, the question becomes whether or not Wilson's covers add anything to pop's ongoing musical conversation. While the tracks are clearly compiled as an *au courant* warning of the pains of war, Wilson herself doesn't add much to the mix. Some of the songs are a little contrived—CCR's "Bad Moon Rising" gets a boost with the addition of a twangy

fiddle and some honky-tonk knee slappin'. None of the songs have the rockin' kick you'd expect from an ex-Heart member. But Wilson notes in her blog that this isn't a Heart album, and she's completely correct.

Regardless, it is Ann Wilson singing, and her naturally big, brash, round vocals seem incongruous with the sparse, earthy sentiments that Neil Young's "War of Man" or Bob Dylan's "A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall" convey.

The novelty of having a version of "that girl from Heart" doing Zeppelin might be worth a purchase for some, not to mention the extra incentive added by the list of musical guests on the album—including Sir Elton John, Alison Krauss, and Gretchen Wilson. But really, it's just karaoke night at Ann Wilson's house, and everyone's invited.



albumreview

Boys Night Out
Boys Night Out
Ferret Records

KELSEY TANASIUK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

If finding yourself singing along uncontrollably within the first minute of the first track is a good sign to you, then consider Boys Night Out's self-titled album to be pure gold. On the other hand, something might be wrong with an album if you can master the lyrics in that short of a timespan. This is all that can really be said for the first four tracks on the album—very catchy, but also dangerously repetitious.

After these four good-but-tiresome

tracks, the album truly picks up. "The Heirs of Error" and "Let Me Be Your Swear Word" hit your ears next: "Error" exhibits the tight songcraft that Boys Night Out fans have grown accustomed to, and with just enough screaming to remove any doubt from your mind that this is a Rock album with a capital "R." "Swear Word" experiments, slowing the band's assault down for a moment before bringing you right back up to your previous head-bopping state.

As a band compiled from members

pulled from other groups, Boys Night Out combines the talent of well-tested musicians who do what they do well and are experienced enough to know what works and what doesn't. As a result, they experiment, but nothing is ever so radical it makes your ears bleed.

A traditional hymn unexpectedly collides with their music on the track "Fall Of The Drinker;" there, Boys Night Out blend the New Year's staple "Auld Lang Syne" into a round of bad-boy cheers. Elsewhere, songs like "Apartment 4" show that the band really can be creative with lyrics when they try.

Overall, Boys Night Out could have put a tad more time into creating this album—it feels like a rushed effort—but what they did do certainly stands on its own. It's catchy to the point that it could be sold on street corners as cocaine for your ears, and it's certainly money well spent for those looking to rock.

Bears reclaim title from penalty-struck Oilers



Box Score

First Period

1. Edmonton, McDonald (O'Marra) 09:34

Penalties: O'Marra, Edm (hooking) 01:35; Woogger, AB (no d'ing the stick) 03:00; Stamler, Edm (roughing) 08:59; Stamler, Edm (roughing) 08:59; Zasky, AB (roughing) 08:59; Price, AB (roughing) 09:12; O'Marra, Edm (cross-checking) 12:51.

Second Period

2. Alberta, Woogger (Fransoo) 07:22
3. Alberta, Kilgour (Fransoo, Krymusa) 19:29

Penalties: Stempfle, AB (tripping) 00:38; Karamnov, Edm (tripping) 05:21; McDonald, Edm (sawing) 07:02; Zasky, AB (no d'ing) 14:53; Micflikier, Edm (no d'ing) 15:34; Stanley, AB (roughing) 16:00; O'Marra, Edm (tripping) 19:08.

Third Period

No Scoring.

Penalties: Paukovic, Edm (hooking) 05:40; Keay, AB (interference) 10:40; Price, AB (sawing) 11:37; Cogano, Edm (roughing) 11:37; Kassen, AB (n'gn stick'ing) 13:51; Moore, AB (n'gn stick'ing) 15:33; B'sa'ion, Edm (cross-checking) 19:09; Pecknam, Edm (sawing) 19:54.

Edmonton	1	0	0	—	1
Alberta	0	2	0	—	2

Goal— Alberta Sorochan, Grenier (W); Edmonton Fesner, Dubnyk (L)

Attendance—3009

	EDM	AB
Shots on goal	33	30
Faceoffs won	36	38
Power-play goals-chances	0-8	2-9
Power-play shots	9	7
Power-play time in minutes	11:20	08:51
Penalties	12	10
Penalties in minutes	24	20

Golden Bear of the Game

Jason Fransoo was named the game's first star, and for good reason. The first-year defenseman was all over the ice, setting up the two Alberta goals, both on power plays. The young player from North Battleford, Saskatchewan was the only freshman in the Golden Bears line-up for Monday's game.

Oiler of the Game

Our pick for Player of the Game from the Oilers goes to Colin McDonald, the Rookies goal-scorer. He finished the game plus-1, with four shots on net. McDonald was drafted 51st overall in the 2003 entry draft, and has spent the last four years in the NCAA with the Providence College Friars. The right wing was signed by the Oilers in July.



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

WHO'S THE PRO NOW? The Bears' Lee Zasky skates circles around Oilers Rookies Andrew Coglian and Jacob Micflikier on the way to a U of A win.

NICK FROST
Sports Staff

One was enough for the Golden Bears.

By virtue of a single goal, the University of Alberta men's hockey team denied the Edmonton Oilers Rookies a second straight victory in the annual match between the two teams. In the 20th game of the series, held at Clare Drake Arena on Monday night, the Bears posted a 2-1 score and got revenge for last year's loss, when the Rookies broke a five-year Alberta winning streak.

Both teams hit the ice with plenty of energy in what ended up being a true see-saw battle between the exhibition rivals. In their first big test of the year, the Bears seemed to show just a bit more determination than the rookies, allowing Ben Kilgour to pot the winning goal in the second period.

It was a match that saw near-identical numbers in almost every statistical category between the two teams. The Bears' Player of the Game, Jason Fransoo—who picked up an assist on each of the Alberta goals—thought that the strong start shows that the Bears are headed back in the right direction.

"Even though it was one of the first games of the year, I thought the boys were playing really well, blocking shots, and those are the kinds of things you want to be doing all year long," Fransoo said. "It's games like these that are stepping stones—the regular season starts in three weeks, and we're always trying to loosen up and just get better, so it was a good start."

Both teams ran into their share of penalty troubles—the Oilers were sent to the box twelve times, while the Bears sat for ten. It was more costly for the Rookies, though, as the Bears capitalized on two of their power-play opportunities, resulting in the difference on the scoreboard. According to Oilers forward Ryan O'Marra, his

team was unanimous in claiming that their lack of discipline cost them the game.

"At times, our system just wasn't bang-on because we hadn't played this team yet, and so we ended up taking too many penalties," O'Marra said. "Myself, I had three, and I paid for it—I take responsibility for it, and I think all the boys do. I think we were a little too high-strung, and we were taking some liberties when we shouldn't have."

On the flipside, despite taking nearly the same number of penalties, Alberta's defense stepped up in short-handed situations, something that put head coach Eric Thurston's mind at ease.

"[Grenier] shut them down, and so did [Sorochan]. Both of them played really well. Neither of them allowed many rebounds; they both had good control over that, and their solid play definitely helped us win."

JASON FRANSOO
BEARS DEFENSEMAN

"I thought the penalty-killing of Hamula, Metcalfe, Kilgour, and all those guys was well done," Thurston said. "We paid the price when we were penalty-killing, in the sense of blocking shots, making sure that we got pucks out, and battling for loose pucks."

"Obviously, the Oilers have done a very good job of drafting and picking talent, and when you're able to have a team that has as much talent as they have go 0/8 on the power-play, it was a

real boost for us—we need to have that kind of success during the year."

Typically a high-scoring affair, Monday night's tilt finished as the second-lowest scoring game in the series' 20-year run, and the lowest since 2003. All four goalies—Bears Aaron Sorochan and Blake Grenier and Oilers Glenn Fisher and Devan Dubnyk—shined in the one and a half periods they each played.

"[Grenier] shut them down, and so did [Sorochan]. Both of them played really well," Fransoo said. "Neither of them allowed many rebounds; they both had good control over that, and their solid play definitely helped us win."

Grenier made 13 saves in the final frame—including a couple of key stops on mad scrambles in front of the net during four Oiler power plays—to preserve the victory, and left Thurston ecstatic over the idea of having two strong, game-ready goaltenders going into the upcoming season.

"It's going to be a very competitive training camp; we've still got six more exhibition games to play, and we'll be looking to tag-team. But goaltending for any team is the key, and if your team is going to get to the next level—to get to the playoffs and to get to nationals—your goaltenders are going to have to be really good, and I feel we have that in both our goaltenders," he said.

As much as the annual game is competitive for both teams, it's also a time to have fun in front of a crowd of over 3000 raucous people at the Drake.

"I thought the crowd was tremendous—and that it was very hot in there," Thurston explained. "I was impressed by our team's conditioning right through because, I mean, it was like an oven in there—I think Aaron Sorochan said he probably lost about ten pounds playing last night. You know, it's tough to play under those conditions, but we really fought through that adversity."

NEXT ISSUE

They don't do the interviews, they don't get the glory, and they don't take the blame for losses, but assistant coaches are nevertheless an important part of the success of the U of A's athletic teams.

Watch out next Tuesday and Thursday for the Gateway's **two-part series** profiling some of the lesser-known members of the Bears' and Pandas' coaching staffs.



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PETE YEE

ROPING THE CALF Alberta wasn't able to take down Regina, but they hope to get off to a better start against UBC.

Fight or flight as Bears take on T-Birds

They haven't won a game so far this football season, but U of A head coach Friesen hopes they turn their luck around by pulling out a win against UBC

PAUL OWEN
Managing Editor

The Golden Bears football team hopes to reverse what has been a season of slow starts as they head to Vancouver for a matchup against the UBC Thunderbirds this weekend.

Off to their worst start since 2003, Alberta (0-2) has yet to score a first-quarter point this season, falling behind 12-0 and 17-0 early during losses to Saskatchewan and Regina.

Head coach Jerry Friesen noted that his team will need to get fired up earlier in games if they hope to be successful.

"We've got to start off better. We haven't been really heating up until the middle of the second quarter, and we have to come out better," he said, adding that facing two of the top offences in the country didn't make things any easier on his squad.

"If we wanted to start in the fire, we just did. Saskatoon has [a top] receiving core, and then we go up against one of the best quarterbacks in Canada [against Regina]. That's not to take anything away from the UBC guy; [Doug] Goldsby's an outstanding quarterback. It's just a matter of making sure that we end up going and making him uncomfortable in the pocket."

Keeping Goldsby under control will be key for a defensive secondary that has given up over 800 yards in the air through the Bears' first two games—especially when they also have to worry about three-time conference all-star Chris Ciezki running out of the backfield for UBC.

Still, Friesen is hopeful for his group, which he said is showing signs

of coming together.

"We're at the point where we're getting better each game on our pass defence, but that'll be the biggest challenge: we've just got to keep getting better at it, and hopefully keep producing those [improved] numbers. That's just a matter of time and getting our defensive backs comfortable. Athletically they're very fine, but it's just a matter of making sure they're comfortable working with each other," he explained.

"We've got to start off better. We haven't been really heating up until the middle of the second quarter, and we have to come out better."

JERRY FRIESEN
BEARS FOOTBALL HEAD COACH

In addition to slowing the T-Birds attack, the Bears defence will also see more responsibility as they try to get their offence on the field more often. Despite putting up 22 points in their latest loss to Regina, the Bears controlled the ball for only 20:10—roughly a third of the game. According to Friesen, his developing offence needs more reps if they're going to put bigger numbers on the scoreboard.

"[The offence is] moving up the learning curve very quickly; if we gave them more opportunities, they'd be more successful. Last game they only

had the opportunity to run 48 plays. That's 15-20 plays less than you're usually given in a game, so we've got to make sure they have more opportunities," he said, noting that the defence and special teams need to take a hand in this.

"There's two factors: give them better field position—and that's via special teams, punt returns—and defensively, we're making sure we turn the ball over more times."

Friesen also pointed to two youngsters being thrust into important roles this season: quarterback Quade Armstrong, who is the Bears' number-one play-caller after splitting duties with senior Cam Linke last season; and Hugh O'Neill, a first-year kicker out of Ross Sheppard high school. Both are filling in nicely for a beleaguered offence that took much of the blame for Alberta missing the post-season last year.

"[Quade has] improved every game. Right now, he's probably into a 35- to 40-minute game, and we've just got to get him up to a 60-minute game."

"[Hugh O'Neill] gives us the opportunity to make decisions that we haven't had to make in awhile. He gives us the confidence to go down the field without having to go the whole way [to score]," Friesen added of the kicker who replaced linebacker Scott Stevenson, who was thrust into emergency kicking duties last season.

The Bears hit the turf at Thunderbird Stadium in Vancouver at 3pm on Saturday. The game can be heard on the TEAM 1260 Radio with Bob Stauffer and former Eskimo Kevin Lefsrud.

Field hockey ready to face UBC

TREVOR PHILLIPS
Sports Writer

The ball's about to drop on another year for Pandas field hockey this weekend at Foote Field and—just their luck—they've drawn the powerhouse defending national champions from UBC for their first series. But two-time CIS Coach of the Year Carla Duncan, is excited about the early challenge.

"[This weekend] is about evaluation and finding how we measure up against the best team in the country," Duncan said. "There are a lot of positives to be had this early in the season, and I think we are going to surprise them."

Catching the champs off-guard is going to be difficult for the young Panda team. Not only did Duncan replace nine players from last year's roster—including the team's MVP and only first-team all-Canadian, Davinder Bal—but her opponents have also had the benefit of an international training camp this summer, which the Pandas didn't.

The T-Birds traveled to New Zealand to play some of the best teams in the world, compiling a 2-3-2 record. Duncan admitted that tournaments like that are good for UBC's players, but that the T-birds are a strong team mostly because of their home province's rich talent pool.

"I think that all programs need to put those events into their schedule because they can be extremely positive for conditioning and development," Duncan explained. "But UBC is a great program because they have a very good development system, a rich feeder system, more players in



FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

X MARKS THE SPOT The Pandas will open the season against the UBC T-Birds.

that province, and the national team is based there."

Working in the underdog Pandas' favor is a change in scheduling by Canada West program. In the past, three of the four conference schools would host a four-team round-robin tournament during the season. Now the system is similar to the schedule that other sports follow: teams will play each other four times—twice at home, twice on the road—which will drastically change the way teams compete. It's something Duncan thinks is a positive both for the Pandas and the sport.

"Having two-game weekends instead of three-game weekends puts [field hockey] on line with other sporting teams like ice hockey or soccer, and that's great for the league, but [this format] also allows for more coaching opportunities. With three

different opponents in one weekend, it was difficult to prepare your team," Duncan said. "With only one opponent, it allows for better coaching [and] better endurance, which should mean better games and should result in more rivalries."

With the prospect of more effective coaching—and the two-time Coach of the Year at the helm—the new schedule should be a definite positive for the U of A. Still, the Pandas face the prospect of looking up at UBC and Victoria in the standings again this year. But the quality of their competition won't change the team's ultimate objective, according to Duncan.

"The main goal is to get to a national championship and play for a medal," Duncan said. "In lots of ways this is a rebuilding year, but the people we have recruited are very, very strong, and we think we can surprise."

Gabrielle Guilbault

Gabrielle Guilbault
Dancer

Cold Lake, AB

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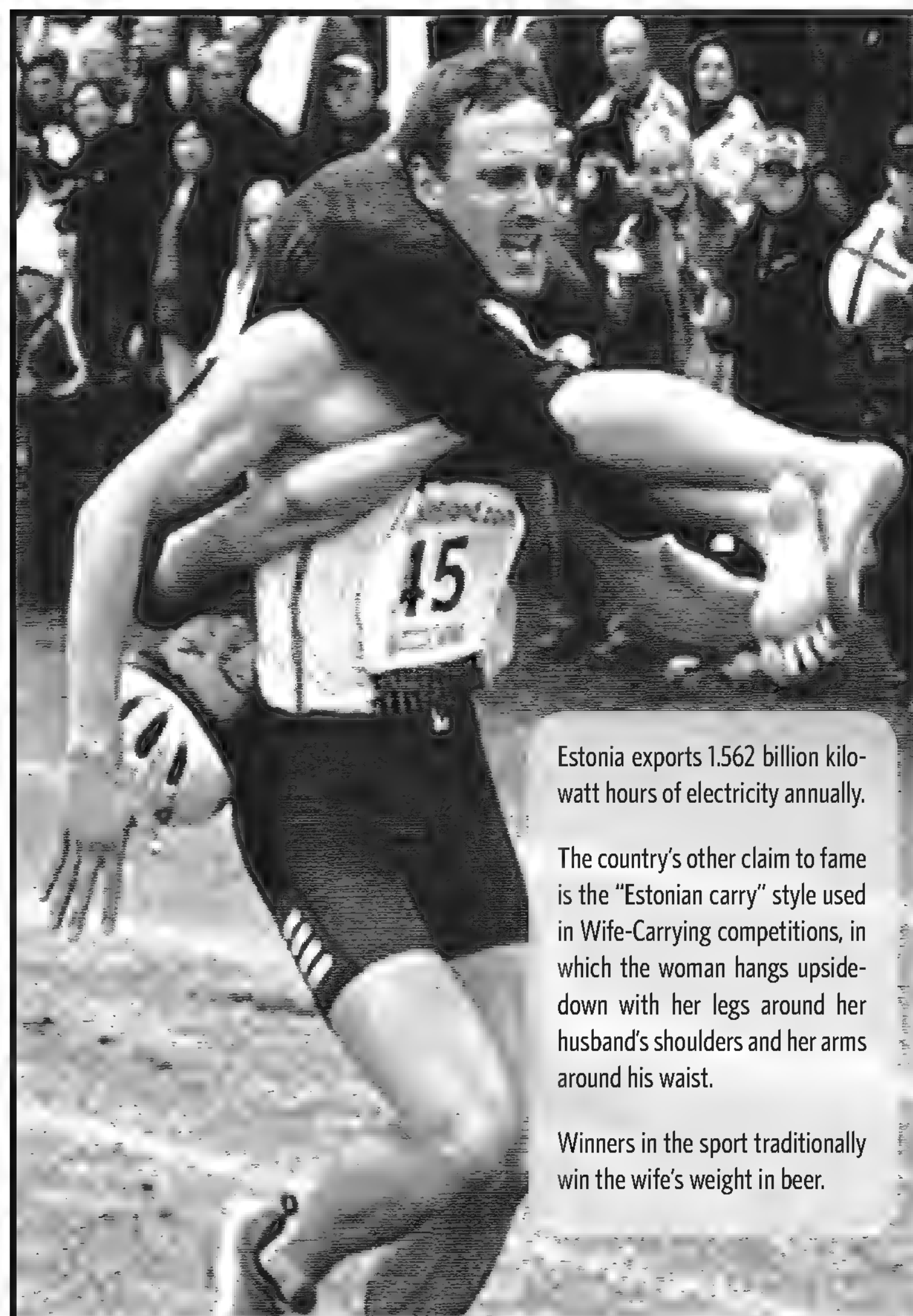
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MEETINGS EVERY TUESDAY AT 5:30

GATEWAY SPORTS

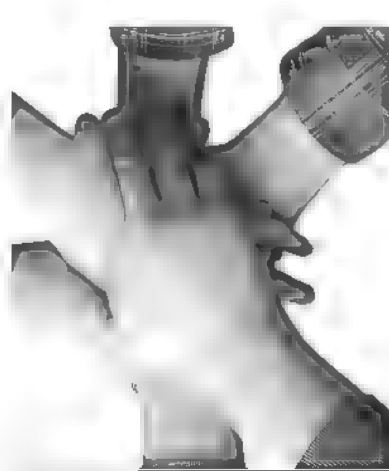
All about the chivalry since 1910



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MIKE OTTO

Cautionary tales of jock love

Getting involved with a celebrity athlete can be dangerous—and hilarious



SPORTS
STAFF

Group
Commentary

Paparazzi, groupies, cheating, beating: all reasons not to enter into a relationship with a professional athlete. Of course, not everyone has taken this little piece of advice, which means that those of us who have get to pity—and be entertained by—those who haven't.

Celebrity athletes are a fixture of the tabloids, and for good reason: the combination of attractive people, money, fame, and extensive travel schedules rarely adds up to domestic bliss—and people love trainwrecks. We here at the Gateway are no exception, and we've put together our selections of the most salacious, hilarious, or horrifying stories from professional athletes' often very public relationship troubles.

Robin Collum

Nothing piques the interest—and horrifies—quite like a story involving famous athletes, music stars, infidelity, allegations of physical abuse, and arson, which is why Andre Rison and Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes's relationship was so fascinating.

Rison, a wide receiver who has played in both the NFL and CFL, and Lopes, whose music with the band TLC went multi-platinum, were involved off-and-on throughout the '90s, creating headlines the whole time. In 1993, Rison was arrested for assaulting her after an incident in a Georgia parking lot where he is said to have hit her and fired a gun.

It's what happened the next year that earned the most headlines, however: Lopes, angry that Rison had been cheating on her, lit a fire in an empty hot tub in the mansion they shared. She said that she only meant to burn his new tennis shoes, but the fire got out of control and consumed the entire house. She later described the building as "a house of evil" and displayed little remorse for the blaze. She was charged with first-degree arson and sentenced to five years' probation.

Somehow, even after all of this, the couple stayed together. But you have to wonder exactly what these two saw in each other, because anyone could see—out of either eye—how unhealthy that relationship was.

Trevor Phillips

First, I'd like to say that I sympathize with anybody who has to go through a divorce; it can be a very emotionally

challenging time, leaving you lonely, vulnerable, and often penniless.

Okay, now that I've shown you that I'm not an insensitive bastard, completely devoid of compassion like the rest of these meatheads, I can get down to business and introduce the gold medal of dysfunctional athlete marriages.

In 2002, Chuck Finley was just your run-of-the-mill American League All-Star pitcher for the Cleveland Indians; Tawny Kitaen was that chick from the Whitesnake music video who dry-humped a Jaguar in her negligée—but you might know her better as the chick who beat the shit out of Finley.

One night, while driving their car—and apparently trashed on prescription medication—Kitaen took the end of her stiletto high-heel and turned Finley's million-dollar arm into swiss cheese. Three days later, she was arrested for domestic abuse, and Finley filed for divorce, partial custody of their two kids—and, of course, a restraining order.

This story ended badly for all involved—except those of us who got to read about it: Kitaen was forced to enter rehab and go through with the humiliation of being a trashy ex-supermodel burnout, and Finley had to deal with the embarrassment of being a worthless veteran pitcher with a 4-11 record who was beat up by his wife. Not a very good reputation in a male-oriented sporting world.

Adam Gaumont

My pick is Elisha Cuthbert and Sean Avery. According to the reputed news website elisha-fans.com, this Tinseltown pair have now split—and admittedly, even when they were together, they weren't particularly dysfunctional as far as starling couples go. However, this relationship was made dysfunctional by the simple fact that it involved Sean fucking Avery.

I mean, this is the guy who's so far managed to offend black people, the French, people who wear visors, a respected TV commentator, and just about everybody else involved in the NHL in between.

Avery isn't a sexy Hollywood bad-boy; he's an offensive prick with a bad attitude, and gives all of hockey a bad name.

From what I can tell, the only thing that Cuthbert and Avery have in common is that they're both Canadian ex-pats who made it big in LA. What he's doing with a sweet, innocent (and sexy!) girl-next-door like Elisha, therefore, is beyond me. In fact, I'm surprised Keifer Sutherland hasn't tried to chop off his hand with an axe yet.

Paul Owen

How can any athlete's spousal affairs top that of Kobe Bryant? The biggest sports story of the summer of '03 was Bryant's alleged rape of a hotel worker in Eagle, Colorado—and the scandal derailed a Lakers team that should have won the NBA title.

Moreover, to apologize, Kobe bought his wife Vanessa a \$4 million ring to say he was sorry. The tip of the cap was the next year, when Kobe's former teammate Karl Malone reportedly told Vanessa—who is of Hispanic decent—that he was "hunting for little Mexican girls," causing a rift between Bryant and Malone. Despite this sort of thing going down, the Bryants appear to have one of the more stable marriages in the NBA. Go figure.

Nick Frost

As far as romance scandals in sport go, none have been as scintillating to me as the much-publicized misadventures between the man I consider to be the greatest basketball player ever—Michael Jordan—and his two-time ex-wife Juanita Vanoy. These two have been through a lot, stemming back to their original marriage nearly twelve and a half years ago, before the old "irreconcilable differences" card was put into play. While they did eventually reconcile—and restore my faith that these two crazy kids could make it after all—they went and called it quits again in 2006, with Vanoy receiving a whopping \$150-million divorce settlement from Jordan.

What makes their failed marriage more entertaining than those of other athletes is the sheer volume and hilarity of well-publicized allegations of his infidelity. Back when I was a young tyke out grocery shopping with my mommy—when the fact that super-market tabloids were generally full of shit was still news to me—I remember seeing a small headline at the top of one of those rags indicating that Michael Jordan was courting professional letter-flipper Vanna White on the side.

Even though I hadn't reached double-digits yet, I still figured out that this story wasn't even remotely true. Yet, when thinking about it today, it's fun to imagine all the possible innuendos that could've sprouted from such an affair, given their respective careers. On the one hand, you have a basketball player known for putting the ball in the hole, and shooting—often from long distances. The best part, though, is what you can do with her job. Start saying things that Vanna White does on Wheel of Fortune in a certain way—like "I'll turn your vowels" for example—and you have hours of innuendo-laden fun.

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Parking spot—walk to U of A from 109st and 81ave. \$35/mo. Unpowered outdoor spot. Mike.vanderzee@yanoo.com.

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American Sign Language Class Level One, non-credit course, begins 20 September, 2007 for twelve weeks. Thursdays, 6:30-9:30pm, \$125. Contact Specialized Support and Disability Services, U of A, 492-3381, 2-800 S.U.B for registration.

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Wine and beer making supplies store requires sales rep. Flex hours, decent wage, exp asset but not necessary. Bring resumé 5718 111 St Edmonton.

Kitchen help needed at the Upper Crust Cafe and Caterers. PT or FT. Close to campus. We can be flexible around your schedule. No Sundays or long weekends. Fax resumé to 436-8942 or in person afternoons 10909-86 Ave.

Catering Delivery driver needed for Upper Crust. Must be available 10am-2pm. Neat in appearance. Clean Driving record. Free uniform when on shift. Apply by fax 436-8942 or in person afternoons 10909-86 Ave.

Weekend part-time (32 hours/month) Personal care aide needed for F Quad, located by Co'seum, \$12-15/hr. Call Lisa (RAPS) 425-5450

Part-time Receptionist required at River Valley Health. University area sports chiropractic clinic looking for energetic individual to fill immediate opening. Position offers campus location, flexible hours and competitive wages. Applicant must possess excellent communication and customer service skills. PhysEd, Kinesiology or Physiology background and previous reception experience are assets. Applicants must be available for morning and weekend shifts and summer employment. Email cover letter, resumé and hours of availability to kristens@rivervalleyhealth.com. Be a basketball referee. Earn cash every Sat. Website www.tneepdo.com or 988-4851 Clinic 28-29 Sept. Great reference and job experience.

McKee Out-of-School Care seeking part-time help to work with children 6 to 12 years of age. Part-time shifts are from 3 to 6pm. Close to university. Great experience for those in Ed., Recreation or similar programs. Reply with resumé by email to dsczebe@notmail.com.

This is the perfect job for you! If you are looking for a job that will work around your class schedule, and study times and pay you an hour you need to apply today. A Cappe a Catering is now hiring for a service staff. We offer flexible schedules, bonuses and a great wage. Come join the many U of A Students already employed by A Cappe a today! We are looking for full and part time. Apply to kim@acappe.ca or call 469-0603

Male quadruplegic requires live-in aide alternate weekends. Driver's license required, with training. Lots of free time to study. 469-0603

Save Sports Centre is currently seeking qualified individuals for some key positions as we enter into our peak fall season. Front Desk Personnel required part-time 5-15 hrs/wk, 9.86/hr. Fitness Centre Attendants part-time 5-15 hrs/wk, 9.86/hr. Maintenance Staff part-time, 5-15 hrs/wk, 9.86/hr. Head Bartender full-time, 35-40 hrs/wk. Wage dependent on experience. Bartenders part-time, 5-14 hrs/wk, 9.24/hr. Concession Attendants part-time, 5-24 hrs/wk, 9.86/hr. Short Order Cook part-time, 14-22 hrs/wk, 11.08+ DOE. Submit your resumé to Maria 6501-115 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E1. Fax (780) 492-1302. Email cnerly.narwardt@ua.perta.ca. Please indicate the position you are applying for.

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Girl Guide Leaders desperately needed NOW. Must be female and 18+. Contact rainbowvalleyguides@notmail.com or 435-5068 for info. Come join the fun!

Got an hour? Be an In-School Mentor! Read. Write in a journal. Explore computers. Play in the gym. Enjoy arts and crafts. We have over 50 elementary schools to choose from in Edmonton and area. Call Big Brothers Big Sisters at 424-8181 or visit us online at www.bpsedmonton.org.

Volunteer Assistant for Kids Karate Club, ages 6-12. One hour/week Thursdays 4pm, two blocks from U of A Campus. 2+ years experience in a Martial Art. Email WPKKC Sensei@notmail.com or phone Gordon at 492-9930 weekdays.

Volunteer with Safewalk! Safewalk is a Students' Union run service that walks people on and around campus at night. We look for friendly, energetic, and fun volunteers. Volunteer shifts are flexible, and can be chosen on a week-to-week basis according to the time and day that works best for you. Visit www.suu.perta.ca/safewalk for more information and volunteer applications. The volunteer application deadline is September 26th. Happy September!

PARKING

Parking spot available one block from east side of campus \$400 for 12 months. 708-6631



SUPPLIED

ICEBERG, STRAIGHT AHEAD! Gateway readers come in all shapes, sizes, and latitudes. U of A graduate James Hudson, currently at UBC, took these photos of himself reading the paper on Ellesmere Island in Nunavut earlier this summer. He's doing research in the Canadian Arctic as part of an International Polar Year project.



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you want to be seen—playing with a
Gateway frisbee, that is!**

Starting Monday and going until Friday, Managing Editor Paul Owen will be traipsing through campus, looking for people reading the *Gateway*. Should he find you between the hours of 10am and 11am, he may just dish you one of these shiny new discs embossed with the logo of your favourite autonomous student newspaper on campus. So keep one eye on your copy of the *Gateway* and the other on the lookout for a tall guy with a *Gateway* hoodie and a hat with his own initials on it.

Of course, if you don't want to succumb to reading in order to get free stuff, you can always just come up and volunteer for us. Email gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca if you're interested—we treat our minions pretty well.

THE GATEWAY

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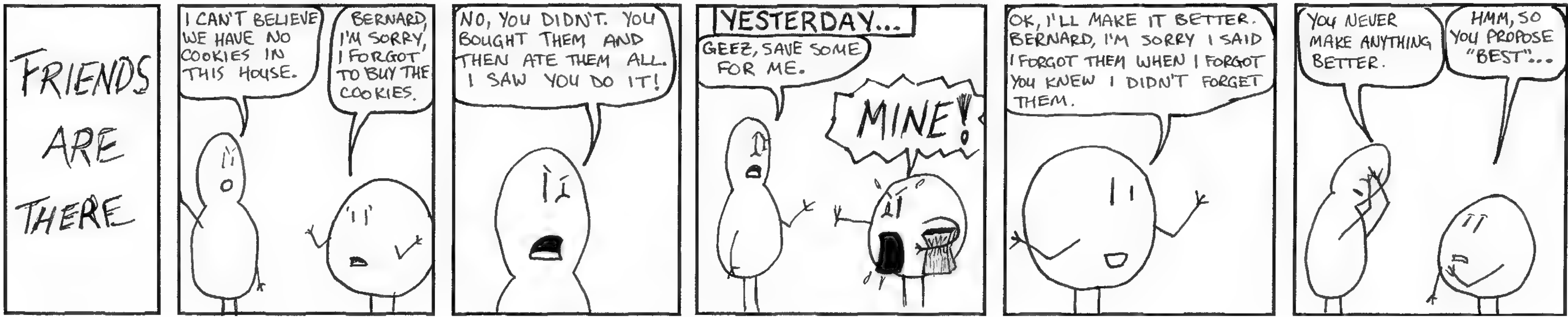
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**New volunteer meeting:
6pm, Thursday, 13 September
Alumni Room, Main Floor, SUB**



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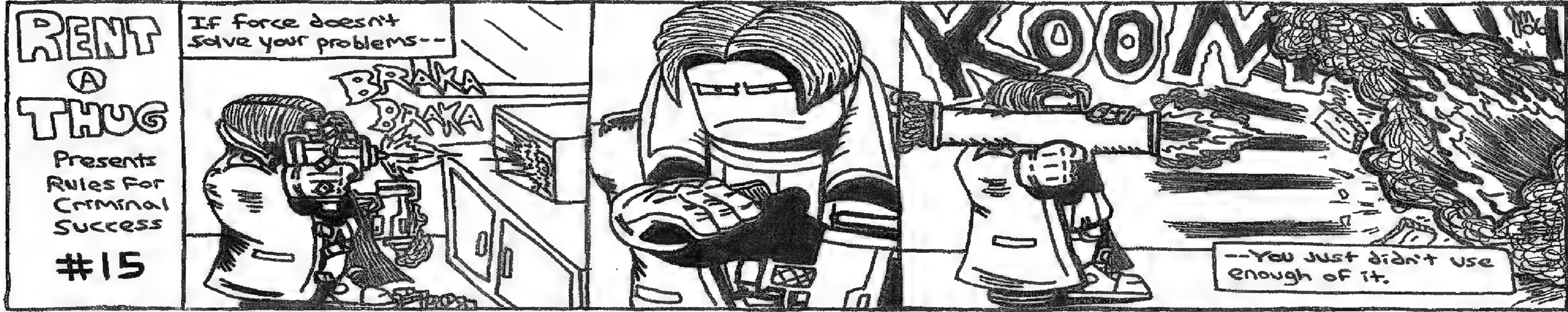
STICKMAN by Jonn Gagnon



COMICS AFTER MIDNIGHT by Conal Pierce



RENT-A-THUG by Jeff Martin



A DELICIOUS DINNER by Gateway Staff



U of EH



EVERY DAY IS CANADA DAY



THE GATEWAY

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Gateway's sister paper and we love her dearly, though
not in that way. The Gateway's games of choice are
Final Fantasy, Halo, and Hanging Out At Council 2.
The ReCounselling.

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Ryan Snopce, Lauren Stegitz, Snaun Mott, Pete Yee.SU revokes political policy impeding
monetary support for Bear Scat service**BEAR SCAT** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Earlier, VP (Academic) Bobby Samuel gave a presentation outlining the history of the SU and Bear Scat, reiterating that academic services such as registration are solely the purview of the University and should therefore not be supported by the SU or SU funds.

Samuel added that the issue has come down to principles versus popularity. Monetarily supporting Bear Scat, he argued, "establishes a dangerous precedent for us if we actually fund an academic service that would normally be funded by the University of Alberta."

Samuel also noted that he sees nothing wrong with the original political policy adopted by the SU.

"I think it represents everything that the Students' Union has been trying to do: it upholds our principles, and it addresses the issues at hand, which is Bear Tracks' functionality."

But other members of Council felt the wording of the policy pigeonholed the SU into a very specific course of action—one that could turn out to be quite limiting.

"I argued strongly in favour of the policy when it was first introduced," SU President Michael Janz said, adding that the University has agreed to add the functionality of Bear Scat into the Bear Tracks upgrade.

"However, the University is unwilling to budge on [the fact] that none of these features are going to be implemented until November 2008," Janz continued. "That means we're still going to have another two, possibly

three terms where, in the mean time, students are going to have to be using Bear Tracks."

"In the short term, we're in a position where we can definitely use Bear Scat," he said.

Debate in Council chambers continued for nearly three hours Tuesday night, with much of it focused on whether or not the SU should risk spending students' funds in order to provide a service of the University for an unspecified amount of time.

**"In the short term, we're
in a position where we
can definitely use Bear
Scat."****MICHAEL JANZ**
SU PRESIDENT

While the debate between Samuel and other members of the executive—primarily President Janz—grew quite heated at times, it became clear that a majority of councillors were in favour of repealing the line in the policy.

On 1 September, Bear Scat creator Steve Kirkham posted an open letter on the service's website urging students to contact the SU to let them know their feelings on the SU's decision. Councillors were then inundated with messages from concerned students both for and against their decision.

However, many councillors that were in favour of the motion didn't think this decision should fall to

students, either through a referendum or a plebiscite, noting they aren't necessarily informed enough about the issue.

"We don't think it should have to come to [a plebiscite]," Dollansky said. "We think Council is elected for a reason—they're elected to become informed on the issues, and they should be able to look at the other options that are available to them that are superior to that and choose the appropriate path."

However Samuel disagrees with this assumption, stating that a well-formulated plebiscite question would be a good course to pursue.

"I think it's important to establish a plebiscite that says, 'Does the student body want the Students' Union to pay for Bear Scat?' I think that's a more powerful plebiscite."

Both Samuel and the rest of the Executive agreed that the establishment of a Dedicated Fee Unit (DFU) would not be the best course of action to take.

"DFUs aren't ideal," Dollansky stated. "We need to pursue all of the other options that are far more favourable before we even get to that. I don't think we should rule it out at this point, but there are definitely many more options that are for superior to DFUs."

Shortly before 10pm, the question on the motion was put and passed 21-7—though many councillors noted they were voting for it with much hesitation.

"Council spoke tonight and said that they're willing to see me work to try to broker a deal to save Bear Scat," Janz

said following the meeting.

Kirkham said he was pleased by Council's decision, and would be willing to reopen talks to find a way to save the popular registration alternative.

"Definitely one of the prerequisites for any further discussions was the repeal of the clause in the political policy that successfully occurred last night," he said.

Kirkham further explained that Michael Janz had been in touch with him recently and had made it clear that the SU was interested in keeping Bear Scat around in its current form.

Though he indicated that he would like to further upgrades Bear Scat to increase its functionality, Kirkham accepted the SU's decision as a reasonable solution to try to keep Bear Scat operating to serve students.

"It's not my favourite solution ... but I understand the Students' Union's position and am definitely willing to reach some sort of compromise to ensure that at the end of the day, students can still use Bear Scat and aren't affected by the disabling of certain functions like we saw over the last couple of weeks."

Though clearly disappointed, Samuel accepted Council's decision to repeal the final line of the political policy.

"Students' Council, in all its wisdom, made the decision to work with Steven to try to find funds to ensure that Bear Scat continues operating," he said.

"Hopefully students will understand my position, why I took it, and why I felt so strongly."

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Scott Fenwick and Paul Owen*The weekend is approaching and, as you may be aware, it contains a Sunday.*

What's your perfect Sunday?

**Dena Samini**
Psychology II**Kelby Wartars**
Science I**Darius Dstouri**
Science II**Garret Kinjerski**
Arts II

Sleeping in. That feels pretty good.

No studying at all; chilling with some friends, eating pizza maybe.

Just relaxing all day with nothing to do—no homework, and sleeping in.

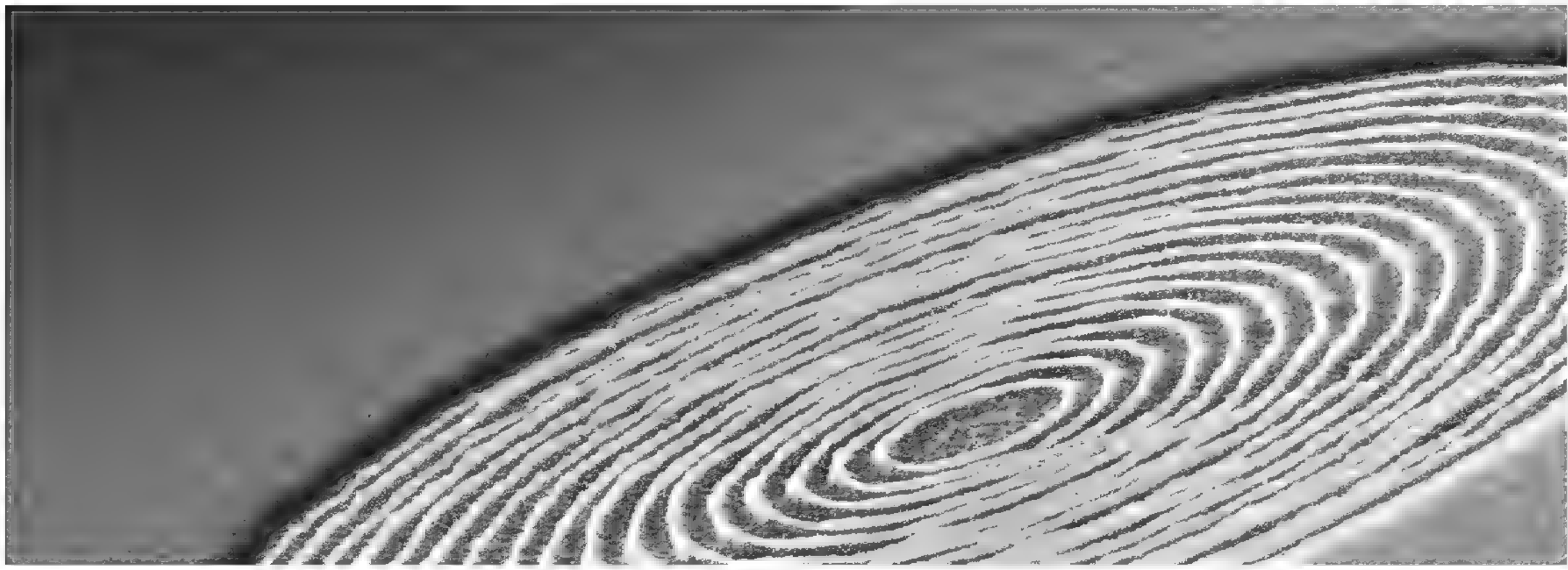
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WHEN SMALL IS IMPRESSIVE This ten nanometre wire has the possibility to change the world of technology.

Big future for NINT nanowires

RYAN HEISE
Deputy News Editor

Researchers at the University of Alberta's National Institute of Nanotechnology (NINT) have potentially paved the way for the future of semiconductors with the development of extremely small conductive wires.

"The idea for this project is that technology ... is getting smaller and smaller, but the technology for nanofabrication is still in the length of microns and hundred nanometers (nm)," explained Steven Chai, a graduate student who has been working on the nanowire project since 2005. He said that a whole new fabrication process for nanostructures is needed to realize the future of technology.

The team, headed up by NINT senior research officer Jillian Buriak, set out to address this issue and do it in the most economical and efficient way.

"Making things this size is very expensive," Buriak said. "So people would like to come up with ways that would allow you to build [nanowires], but not have to go in and design each one."

The results of their work is a technique that does much of this hard work for the researchers, essentially creating a very small, uniform mould for the wires.

The process begins with a block co-polymer—a polymer made up of two different materials about 40nm across—being placed on a silicon chip. The polymer is then heated to about

200 degrees to make the molecules more active. When this happens, the polymers naturally self-assemble into cylindrical lines on the surface of the chip, and the two different polymers separate. The polymer is then filled with metal ions to create the wire. Finally, plasma is used to remove the polymer, leaving behind only the metal ions that were shaped by the polymer channels.

"Making things this size is very expensive."

JILLIAN BURIAK
NINT SENIOR RESEARCH OFFICER

The outcome is wires that are approximately 10nm across. In comparison, the wires used in high-end microprocessors today are 65nm.

Chai and Buriak agreed that the block co-polymers are the key to the process, as they self-assemble into structures resembling lines, completing the researchers' hardest task.

While the method is a huge breakthrough in the development of semiconductors, the process still requires some refinement.

Chai also explained that working with increasingly smaller components changes their properties somewhat.

"Material property at the nano scale is a little bit different than the material property at the microscopic scale," he said.

The uses of the wires will vary

greatly. Consumer applications will most likely be seen in the development of more efficient microprocessors and tiny power sources and interconnects for components on chips. Medical applications for multi-array sensors that can monitor hundreds of thousands of different actions in the human body in real time might also be possible.

As Buriak put it, "Rather than saying 'Can you pee in this cup, Mr Jones?', and then you analyze for three things. It's so primitive compared to what people are thinking of."

But Buriak said that the development of these nanowires would perhaps have the greatest impact on the future of the Semi-Conductor Roadmap, a document created by industry-leading companies and researchers that sets out the path for semiconductor development.

"The roadmap is fantastic because it has highlights in red, and these highlights in red are for things ... 'for which there are no known manufacturable solutions,'" she said. "When you get to 2018—when things are sub-20nm—there's so much red that they've termed this the 'red brick wall.' It's the end of the line; we don't know how the heck we're going to make this."

"The point is, can you come up with ways that will allow you to continue making smaller and smaller feature sizes on chips that's economical and manufacturable?" she asked. "Using block co-polymers is definitely manufacturable."

NEWS BRIEF

AS GLOBAL WARMING TAKES FLIGHT, BUTTERFLIES MAY SUFFER

Global warming is beginning to diminish the habitat of the alpine Apollo butterfly.

According to a study conducted by researchers at the University of Alberta and published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, the rising temperatures brought about by global warming has caused the tree line in the Rocky Mountains to elevate. As a result, this expansion of alpine forests is leaving little living space for animals that prefer non-forested habitats.

The Apollo butterfly, otherwise known as *Parnassius*, could be at particular risk, as they require a lot of time in the sun in order to generate the body heat that they need to fly. For this reason, they are most often found in meadows and areas without substantial amounts of shade.

Dr. Jens Roland, lead author of the study and a professor of biological sciences, explained that the butterflies could become endangered.

"It's not threatened at this point, but similar species in Europe are quite threatened, so these results are relevant to other species," he said.

Roland added that since Alberta forests are beginning to invade meadows and rob them of sunlight, the butterflies may become hard-pressed to survive



SHAUN MOTT

BUTTERFLY BLUES Global warming is threatening the Apollo butterfly.

within a few decades. Not only does the growth of new forests cause the butterflies' habitat to shrink, it also prevents them from moving to other open areas, thereby isolating them from their counterparts and potential mates.

Currently, national parks initiate controlled forest fires in an attempt to preserve certain habitats and maintain the populations of larger mammals. Roland

suggested that similar action could be taken for the alpine Apollo butterfly.

"Fire does tend to reset tree lines which are over-elevated," Roland said. "They do prescribed burning for things like elk and mountain sheep, but there would also be benefits for smaller organisms and things like butterflies."

—Brendan Cox, News Writer

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Council depending on by-election to fill empty seats

RYAN HEISE
Deputy News Editor

Students' Union by-elections are coming up at the end of the month, with Students' Council facing a substantial deficit of sitting Councillors.

There are currently 17 empty seats on Council out of a total of 42, leaving only 25 filled. The number of vacancies was increased by the end of August with the resignation of five councillors. Another 18 remain unfilled on the General Faculties Council (GFC).

However, SU Chief Returning Officer Craig Turner said he's confident the seats will adequately be filled.

"Based on our high number of vacancies right now, I'm optimistic that we're going to see an unprecedented amount of interest from all sides—from candidates who are interested in running, from voters realizing their vote is important, and from the media."

Turner is currently undertaking a marketing campaign that's targeting each faculty individually in order to let voters know that they have a voice through their elected representatives. However, he wasn't willing to comment on why initial interest during last year's elections had been lower than normal.

Since he wasn't here last year, Turner explained, he "wouldn't like to speculate on the situations that have come up in the past."

"I'd rather like to look at how we're going to get people to run in this election and how we're going to get voters out."

SU President Michael Janz was more

open to commenting on the state of the student electorate.

"I think there are so many empty seats because students don't realize how important Students' Council is," Janz explained via email. "Council is interesting, fun, and a great opportunity to get involved with your community."

"I'd rather like to look at how we're going to get people to run in this election and how we're going to get voters out."

CRAIG TURNER
SU CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

Turner explained that, according to the SU's Bylaw 100, at least 30 seats need to be filled in order to cease the election process. If less than five seats are filled during the by-election, calls for candidates will continue until twelve or less seats are vacant.

With the 17 September by-elections nomination deadline fast approaching, Turner didn't want to divulge how many interested candidates had approached him to run.

"I've been contacted by a number of people who are interested in running, but I'm not going to disclose that sort of information until the nomination deadline," he said. "There definitely has been interest brought to my attention."

By-elections last September saw eleven empty seats on Students' Council, with all but four ultimately

being filled; meanwhile, six GFC seats were available with only two remaining vacant.

Last year, Council introduced councillor remuneration to help boost interest in potential candidates, as well as to try to increase Council's accountability. However, the program has recently come under fire by some members of the SU as being a waste and not an effective measure to drive-up interest.

"Councillor pay was brought [in] under the [belief] that it would make Council more productive, we would attract better councillors, and more councillors would be committed to the organization," Janz said. "I don't believe that we've seen that, and I don't believe it's been a successful experiment."

"Council has been a volunteer activity for 95 other years of our SU's existence, and I don't think that the one-year experiment to pay councillors has paid off," he continued.

However, Council remains somewhat divided on the issue, as some see remuneration as a positive program.

Agriculture and Forestry councillor Jacqueline Geller feels more time and support is needed for the remuneration program to accurately gauge results.

"We haven't given the program enough time to effectively evaluate it," Geller explained. "We haven't been able to see if it can attract councillors, especially since there's no advertising and no real outreach in regards to finding potential councillors and telling them that they're paid."

Council pay is scheduled to be debated in October, after by-elections have taken place and when there are expected to be less vacant seats.

Empty Seats Leading up to By-Elections

- 1 - Agriculture and Forestry
- 3 - Arts
- 2 - Education
- 2 - Engineering
- 1 - Medicine and Oral Health Sciences
- 2 - Nursing
- 2 - Open Studies
- 1 - Physical Education
- 3 - Science

By-Election Deadlines

- 17 September - 5pm
Nomination Deadline
- 19 September - 9am
Start of Campaigning
- 26 September - 9pm
End of Campaigning
- 27 September - 9am
Polls Open
- 28 September - 5pm
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For more information, contact SU CRO Craig Turner cro@ualberta.ca

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Jane Austen book a novel discovery

AUSTEN ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"200 years from now, when people come to look at this first edition of *Pride and Prejudice*—which will be considerably older than it is now—they'll know that it was dedicated to the memory of Dr Stovel," Green said. "It's a really lovely job, and it will look like that for the next 500 or 1000 years, for as long as Special Collections is here."

Green is hesitant to say what the selling price of the book would be today. "It's worth thousands and thousands of dollars," she chuckles. "That's all I'm going to say."

However, that doesn't mean it won't be accessible to students or the public. Everyone is welcome to see it and perhaps even hold it.

Nora Stovel, too, hopes that those who visit it will find their memories of a professor, scholar, friend, relative, and blues lover come flooding back too.

"His major literary interest was Jane Austen, and *Pride and Prejudice* was one of his favourites," she reminisces. "When we both taught first-year, we taught *Pride and Prejudice*."

"He also used to read it aloud to me when I did the dishes," she laughs.

“ I use Bear Scat—I think it's a great system. That's what makes this decision so difficult.

BOBBY SAMUEL
Vice-President (Academic)

— on the decision to support the SU's original Bear Scat political policy

COUNCIL FORUM

By Ryan Heise

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 18 September, where free food will be provided for all attendees.

Since the vast majority of Council was spent debating the Bear Scat political policy, very little else on the meeting's order paper was covered. Aside from a nomination of a councillor to sit on the APIRG Board of Directors and one to the Audit Committee, the primary order of business was question period.

NO-PASS

Steven Dollansky, Vice-President (External), was asked how the U-Pass opt-out system for students registered in off campus terms worked. Dollansky explained that if the specific term fell under the criteria of being completely off-campus and the students was not registered in any supplementary courses on campus, the opt-out would happen automatically at the Registrar's end. He ended by saying any student who was

levied the \$75 per term fee and believes they should not have been should take up their complaint with the Office of the Registrar.

LOWER-LEVEL LAB NO LONGER LACKLUSTER

VP (Operations and Finance) Eamonn Gamble was asked whether or not the issues in the SU's computer lab had been resolved. Gamble explained that the problems of logging in were due to an issue on Academic Information and Communication Technologies' end, and that they had been resolved. A follow-up inquired as to whether or not he knew there were mice missing from some computers in the lab. Gamble said he wasn't sure but would look into it.

WOW WOWS STUDENTS

A question directed at VP (Student Life) Chris Le inquired as to how the response to Week of Welcome was. Le stated that the initial reports he's been hearing have been overwhelmingly positive, citing the long lines for the sumo wrestling and inflatable jousting. He said he would make the suggestion to next year's VPSL to look into similar activities so future Deputy News Editors can defeat future SU Presidents in foam-stick-to-foam-stick combat.

SU HANGS WITH THE BIG KIDS

Dollansky was questioned regarding



MIKE OTTO

SWIMMING UPSTREAM Bobby Samuel delivers his view on Bear Scat Funding.

a scheduled meeting with Edmonton Strathcona MLA Raj Pannu. He explained the executive has a number of meetings set up with members of each of the three main political parties in Alberta leading up to a possible election in 2008.

'NEUN-UND-NEUNZIG LUFTBALLONS'

Le was asked if he had a plan for the

yearly tuition stunt that the SU pulls each year on tuition deadline day. Le said he was working on it, and it was going to involve a rather substantial amount of balloons, but refused to offer any other information. Past stunts have included trying to push a giant novelty cheque through the Registrar's payment slot and paying a full year's tuition in pocket change.

U of A political science professors criticize American post-9/11 policies

TRISTAN FOLINSBEE
News Writer

A group of academics from the University of Alberta met Tuesday, the sixth anniversary of 9/11, to examine the international and domestic fallout from those events—and their assessment was singularly negative.

Professor Emeritus Saleem Qureshi, Associate Professor Yasmeen Abu-Laban, and Assistant Professor Rob Aitken, all from the department of Political Science, spoke about the effects of 9/11 in front of an overflowing audience in a Tory classroom. The discussion was moderated by political science Associate Professor Malinda Smith.

Qureshi, who began the discussion, argued that "War on Terror" is an impossibility—a misnomer intended to conceal the legitimate complaints of the "colonized" peoples who sometimes resort to terrorism and to simplify a complicated reality for the consumption of the public.

"Fighting terrorism is an illusion. Terrorism is not an ideology, not a philosophy—it's not even a scheme by which individuals or groups could live.

"To colonial powers, the motives of terrorists are never legitimate—the sources of their discomfort, their political and social demands, do not deserve to be taken into account, except under pressure," Qureshi said.

Qureshi went on to say that America, having been complicit under the presidency of Ronald Reagan in the formation, training, and arming of Al Qaeda, hasn't learned from its own history and is committing the same mistakes again.

"20 years after its blindness helped create Al-Qaeda, has the US learned its lesson? The answer, if we are to believe the celebrated journalist Seymour Hersh, is no. The US has brought together a coalition of moderate Sunni states to support all the anti-Iranian and anti-Shia movements, even the most radical. However, the

Iraqi state has imploded, and Afghanistan drips further towards anarchy with each Taliban victory," Qureshi said.

"Fighting terrorism is an illusion. Terrorism is not an ideology, not a philosophy—it's not even a scheme by which individuals or groups could live."

SALEEM QURESHI
U OF A PROFESSOR EMERITUS

Abu-Laban used her time to discuss the increased racism engendered as a result of 9/11. The attacks, argued Abu-Laban, caused citizens, governments, and academics to see religion—especially Islam—as the central cause of terror-

ism, with corollary problems to the followers of "non-Christian" religions within Canada.

"The renewed attention to religion, and the growing problematization of religion, or at least some religions, is a legacy of September 11th, that I think carries implications for the meaning of human rights—internationally and domestically—and for conceptualizing how racism needs to be fought, and the fronts on which it needs to be fought in the new century," Abu-Laban said.

However, Qureshi noted that a final victory by radical Islamists was unlikely, due to technological and educational deficiencies within the Muslim world.

"The Islamists have not achieved any significant success, either in the ideological front or in the technological front. Military competence in the modern world is dependent upon technological, scientific education. All Muslim states are deficient in modern education," Qureshi said.

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TREND HIRES ON AN ONGOING BASIS

Two assaults at York end violent week at five Ontario universities

SARAH MILLAR
CUP Ontario Bureau Chief

TORONTO (CUP)—In the first week of classes, there have been eight sexual assaults at five university campuses across Ontario.

The first occurred on 1 September at Carleton University in Ottawa, leaving one woman in hospital with a broken jaw and a dislocated shoulder. On 3 September, there were other separate attacks at Laurentian University in Sudbury, where women were attacked on a trail near the University.

The following evening in Waterloo at Wilfrid Laurier University, a woman was sexually assaulted while dancing at a frosh party. Also on 4 September, a young woman was sexually assaulted by two fellow students from the University of Ottawa while on a trip to neighbouring Gatineau, Quebec.

Then, on 7 September, two students at York University were sexually assaulted as they slept in their residence rooms. The two victims of the assault at York were treated in hospital and released; Toronto Police are looking for two men in their early 20s.

Two students have also been detained in relation to the attack in Gatineau; all of the other assailants remain at large.

The perpetrator in the attack at Carleton University on 1 September may have been caught on camera, but cannot be identified due to poor quality video surveillance.

“The video we have ... is [taken from] a great distance, so when we zoom in, it becomes grainy, and that doesn’t help with identifying the person,” explained Constable Isabelle Lemieux, a spokesperson for the Ottawa police.

“This [video] gives us a location and

a time,” she said. “But it doesn’t help with identifying the person.”

Following the assaults, several universities are stepping up their security.

Alex Bilyk, a spokesman for York University, said they have since boosted safety precautions there by increasing residence staff and security patrols. Officers from the Toronto Police Service are also patrolling the campus to supplement normal security patrols.

“I guess the clear message here, really the beneficial one, is to give a warning to students to be on the look-out, to watch out for their safety.”

ALEX BILYK
YORK UNIVERSITY SPOKESMAN

Meanwhile, Carleton administration has conducted special presentations to residence students to make the community more aware of safety procedures on campus, and officials are discouraging students from going out alone.

“I guess the clear message here, really the beneficial one, is to give a warning to students to be on the look-out, to watch out for their safety,” Bilyk said. “A lot of them are leaving home for the first time, living away from home for the first time, and they better understand that their environment has changed.”

Ashley McPherson, a first-year English student at York and a resident where the assaults took place, said the incident made her and her roommate look at their safety precautions more closely, and prompted them to start locking their room’s door at night.

“During frosh week, you hear, ‘Oh just leave your door open; people will just walk in to say hi,’ ... [and] you think, ‘Oh, I’ll leave my door open, and people will come by and introduce themselves.’ So maybe they should tell people after a certain amount of time, ‘Shut your door, and lock it,’” McPherson said.

Police are still uncertain how the two attackers at York got into the residence, which requires a swipe card to open the front door. However, McPherson said that students often hold the door open for others, making it easy for an outsider to get in.

Detective Christine Long of the Toronto Police Sex Crimes Unit, who is investigating the assaults at York, said that while the eight incidents across the province are isolated, she believes there is a higher risk of assault at university campuses because people feel safer on campus. In reality, she said, students are no safer on campus than anywhere else.

“I think there’s a higher risk. It’s a different environment than a city, which is a blend of both community and business, whereas a university is kind of like a big house that teaches,” she explained.

Long added that while universities pose a different kind of risk, more sexual assaults occur in the Greater Toronto Area than on all university campuses combined. She stressed the importance of individuals keeping themselves safe and not allowing an opportunity for an attack.

“Any crime can be committed if you have means, motive, and opportunity—so don’t create an opportunity for anybody,” Long said.

—With files from Diana Mehta (the Charlatan) and Precious Yutangco (Excalibur).

McGill divests from Big Tobacco

BoG resolution compels University to sell off \$4.5 million in stocks

ADRIENNE KLASA
The McGill Daily

MONTREAL (CUP)—Under pressure from graduate students, McGill University has decided to divest from tobacco and tobacco-related industries.

The McGill Board of Governors (BoG) decided on 22 May to sell \$4.5 million in tobacco stocks, following a recommendation from its Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility (CAMSAR).

The CAMSR proposal came in response to a student campaign that began last April, spearheaded by the BoG Post-Graduate Students’ Society representative, Mehdi El Ouali.

“Tobacco is the only product on the market that kills when it is used as intended by the manufacturer,” El Ouali said. “No safe use exists for tobacco.”

The BoG resolution compels McGill’s investment managers to divest from any corporation that derives more than 10 per cent of its revenues from the manufacture and production of tobacco products, according to an email from McGill Secretary-General Johanne Pelletier.

El Ouali gathered 549 signatures in support of divestment and submitted a report to CAMSR outlining the

socially injurious nature of tobacco investment. According to El Ouali, the signatures were collected from students, staff, alumni, and administration in just 48 hours.

“This is a very exciting move,” said Ed Hudson, a councillor with the Post-Graduate Students’ Society who was also involved in the campaign. “This is the first time that the provisions of CAMSR have been tried out ... and the results give the impression that the Board of Governors takes their suggestions half-way seriously.”

CAMSAR was first created in the 1980s in response to student pressure on McGill to divest from apartheid-era South Africa, but was inactive until an overhaul of its mandate in 2004. The Committee reviews questions raised by members of the McGill community about possible “social injury” caused by the University’s investments.

CAMSAR last made a recommendation to BoG in 2006, regarding investments linked to Myanmar, a country governed by a military regime. The BoG responded with a resolution condemning companies that cause social injury in Burma, but didn’t divest from any companies doing business in the Southeast Asian country. A 2002 student-initiated tobacco divestment campaign at McGill was unsuccessful.

McGill’s tobacco-related holdings, which included stocks in an assortment of interrelated companies including Philip Morris and Rothmans, accounted for only 0.5 per cent of the University’s total endowment.

Hudson argued that the divestment was a “no-brainer,” because it doesn’t represent a significant financial sacrifice to the University, but still sends a clear message of disapproval to the tobacco industry.

The University of Toronto dropped its \$10-million investment in tobacco last March under pressure from a student organization called E-Butt. Many other universities disposed of their tobacco stocks long ago, including Harvard in 1989 and Stanford in 1998.

“Partially, what we are doing is catching up,” Hudson said. “It was time that McGill [took] the social role of its investments seriously.”

However, Pelletier insisted that this divestment will not set a precedent for future investment decisions.

“Each expression of concern from the community must be submitted by way of a petition and an accompanying brief and will be evaluated on its own merits,” she said, adding that the tobacco industry “represents an exceptional, if not unique, case of social injury.”

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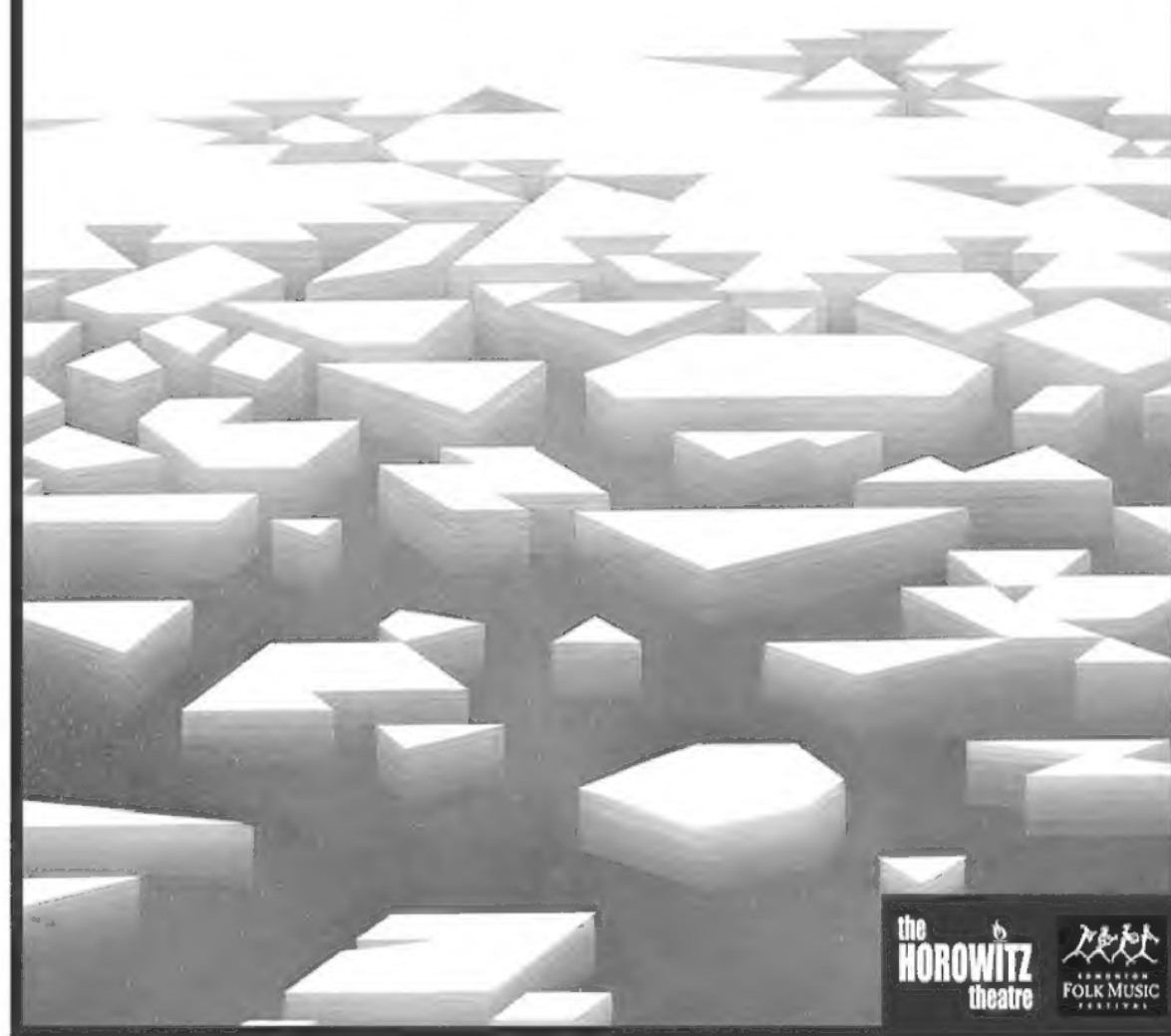
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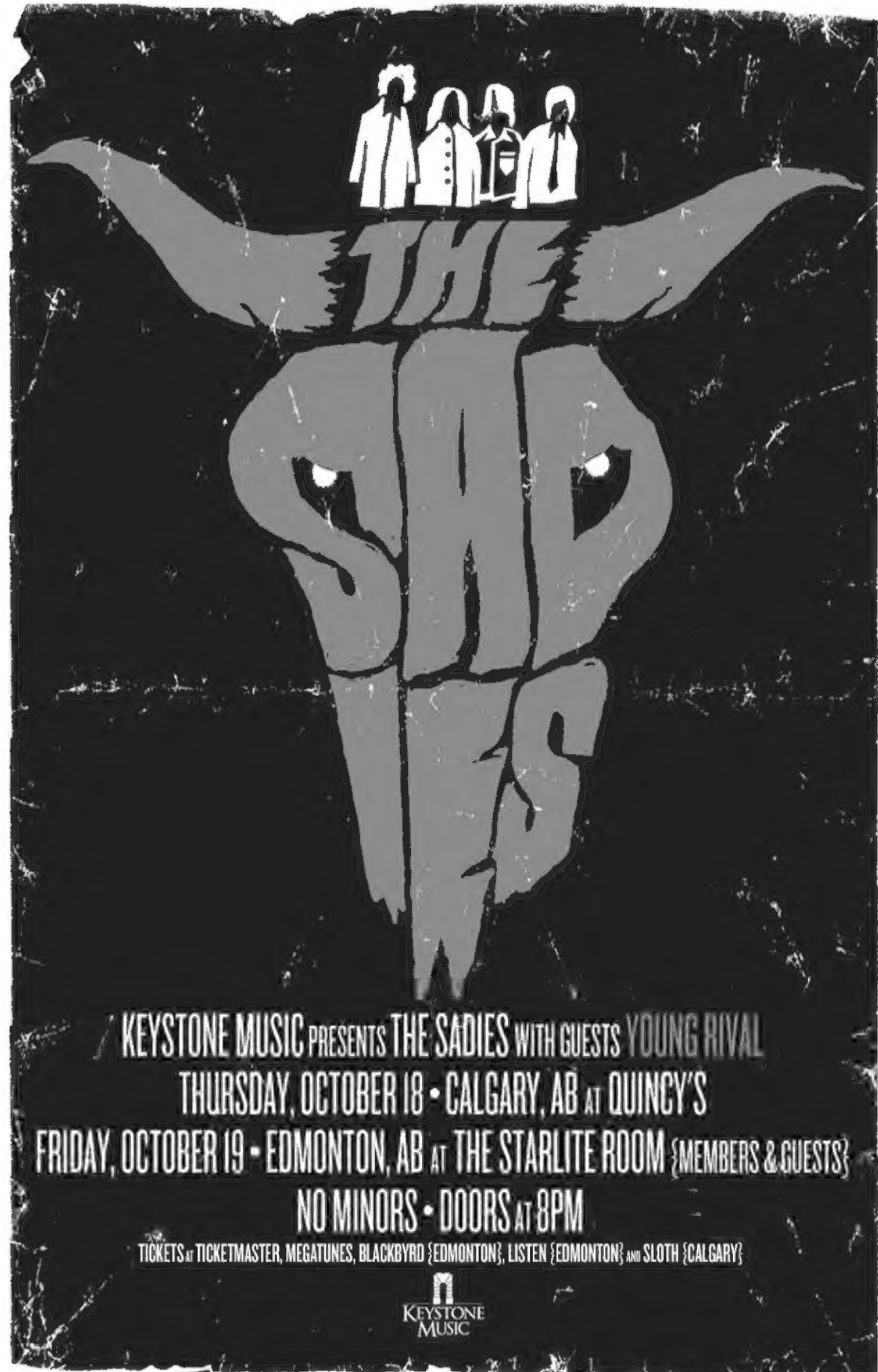
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& Sandro Perri

TUESDAY OCT 23
MCDUGALL UNITED CHURCH
10025 - 101st
TICKETS AT MEGATUNES, BLACKBYRD, LISTEN & TICKETMASTER



Stars

Wednesday November 21
Edmonton Event Centre

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with guests Miracle Fortress

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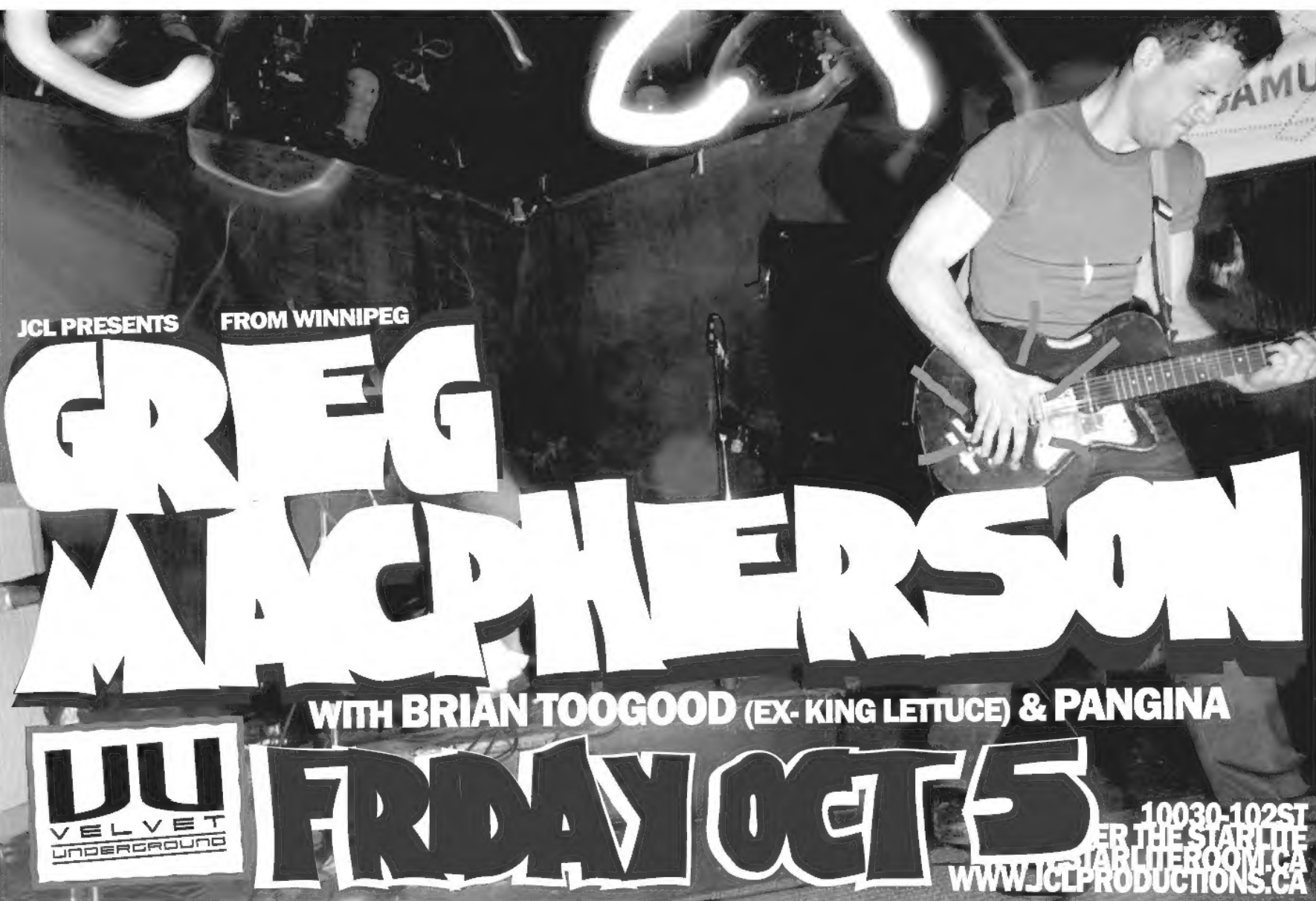
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STARLITE ROOM
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PATRICK WATSON
WITH GUESTS

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MYER HOROWITZ THEATRE

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Harper's actions just veiled racism

ONE OF THE LAST PLACES I WANT TO BE SEEN is at a polling station. I mean, how can I justify acting like an apathetic fuckwit if I've got the motivation to draw a checkmark for the man? That's like carpet-bombing a city with flowers—it just doesn't show that you're serious about your choices.

And now, with the introduction of Bill C-31 this past June that requires the presentation of photo-identification before you're allowed to vote, I no longer have the option of throwing on dark sunglasses and a hat and slinking into the voting booth like I'm entering a porn shop.

Recently, however, Canada's chief electoral officer, Marc Mayrand, introduced a new policy that would allow veiled women to vote without having to show their faces. A decision worthy of praise for its cultural sensitivity, and one that has Stephen Harper mad enough to uppercute a child.

Harper has said that he “profoundly disagree[s] with the decision,” stating that it contravened the currently established legislature. He even went so far as to threaten to get parliament to reverse Election Canada's ruling if they refused to do so themselves—much like the way your mother used to threaten to “go get dad” when you refused to clean up your room.

Thus far, Maynard has had the balls to call Harper's bluff, and suggested that maybe instead, parliament should try to revise the current confusing legislature on the subject. However, this would mean that the Conservative government would be required to do actual work, something they've avoided since being elected in 2006.

I'm sure that this has prompted Stephen to pick up the phone several times, only to scream at it in fury before hanging up—but really, why the fuck does he care? It's not like an army of veiled voters are going to start popping up everywhere like ninjas. And even if this were the case, Elections Canada has established protocols to ensure that voters are who they claim to be.

If someone chooses not to raise their veil, then they are required to present a second piece of identification from an approved list—or, alternatively, they can have another elector from the same polling division vouch for their identity under oath. If this proves unsatisfactory, there's also the additional step of having both individuals cross their hearts and hope to die with the possibility of having to stick a needle into their eye.

Sure, they could always steal somebody else's wallet and use their ID, and it's not like lying under oath is uncommon, but how many people are actually going to be willing to go to that much trouble? The most recent voter turnout for the Federal election was pegged at 64.7 per cent, and with a simple two-minute car ride being enough to deter many people from voting, the chances of mass fraud occurring are slim to none.

To put it bluntly, this decision will have about the same amount of impact on elections as allowing grizzly bears to vote. And yes, I've considered the effects of setting a bear loose in a polling station—it would only reduce the number of votes the Green Party receives. It's kind of hard to want to protect the environment after you've been brutally mauled.

CONAL PIERSE
Opinion Editor

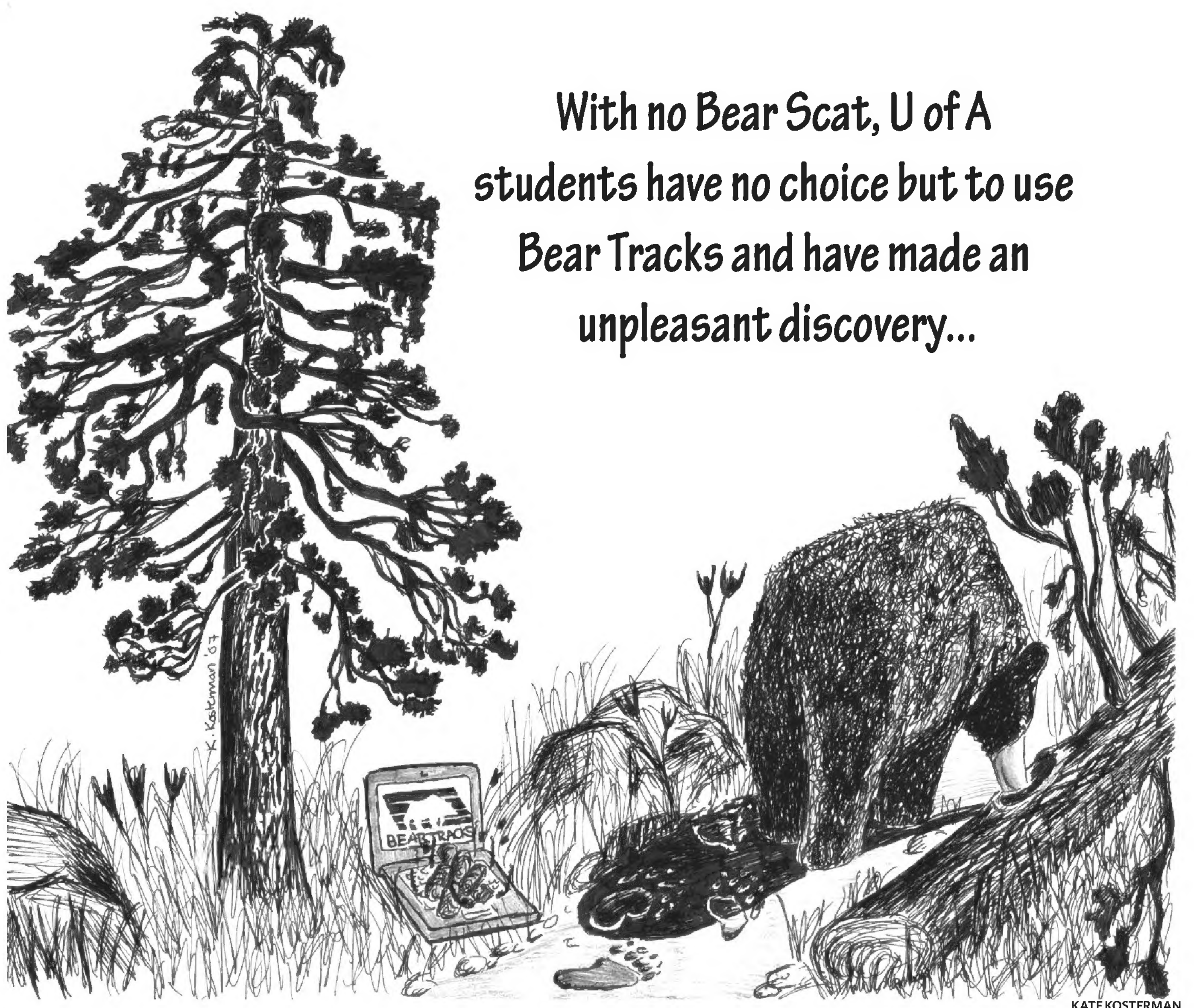
Single ain't so lonely

ACCORDING TO STATS CANADA, THE LATEST census shows that bachelors and bachelorettes now comprise 51.5 per cent of the population over the age of 15. This means that for the first time in this country, married folk are the minority.

While the cause of this could be the increase in common law relationships or single-parent families being more socially acceptable, I think there's a more basic logic behind this trend. It appears that society is finally heeding the wisdom of the great Internet philosopher Anonymous, who posed the question: “Why bother buying the cow, if you can get the sex for free?”

PAUL OWEN
Managing Editor

MARK HOGE
Sociology/Chinese III



KATE KOSTERMAN

With no Bear Scat, U of A students have no choice but to use Bear Tracks and have made an unpleasant discovery...

LETTERS

University has done little emergency preparation

It's to my dismay that I believe both the President of the University and the security department haven't been vocal enough about what they're doing to ensure the safety of the students.

In light of what happened last spring at Virginia Tech, along with several more violent incidents at schools both in the United States and in Canada, I don't believe that the University is doing enough to prepare students in the event that something violent happens here.

Other than placing a direct link to the institution's ill-designed, confusing, and time-consuming “Emergency Management” website—where, let's face it, the only one's who'll visit and sift through it are those who have remarkable attention spans or those who have too much time—and a cute little five-paragraph note on President Samarasekera's office's website entitled “A great university; readiness, resiliency, and robustness when a disaster strikes,” the administration has done very little to prepare students to respond in the unlikely even that something violent occurs. Nor has it reinforced or fostered within students a feeling of protection and safety.

I recommend that both President Samarasekera and the security department write an email to the students regarding what is to be done in the event that something violent does happen, and what is already being done to minimize the chances of something happening.

To my very own heroes

I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you to the people that helped me out in the Dentistry and Pharmacy building Monday morning around 9am.

Thank you for taking the time to make sure I was alright, and for getting me the help I need. Especially thank-you to Catherine, the only person I know by name, for being at my side and holding my hand to comfort me.

As well, thank you to the gentleman that was already calling for help before I came to. Also, thank you to the other gentleman that watched over me. It's a comfort to know that there are still people who can stop and care for one another.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

ALISSA KOWALCHUK
Education IV

Nobody laughing on 9/11

I'm very disappointed with the quality of Jonn Kmech's article (Re: “Osama tape should've stayed in cave,” 11 September). Even though it's meant to be a humorous article, it's not what I would expect from a University publication.

He says, “God help us if the Iraq war reaches syndication and is on every channel, all day.” I interpret that loaded statement to mean that war is depressing and that it's better to be swept away into a blissful delirium of sitcoms and reality show pap.

The article could've investigated the controversy of the tapes legitimacy. It could've expounded on the fact that Bin Laden is still out there making tapes after six years of having a \$50-million bounty on his head. What happened to capturing him dead or alive and smoking him out of his cave?

You could've mentioned that in the six years since 9/11, the US has invaded Iraq, captured Saddam, deloused him, and executed him, but Osama has somehow evaded them.

Fahrenheit 9/11 showed that Bin Laden is being protected by his connections to the Bush family. Jonn wasted an opportunity to shed some light on this hot topic, and instead gave us drivel about how the rapidly changing post-9/11 world is just like a sitcom. I would encourage everyone to spend time thinking about the important issue of the war on terror instead of being willfully ignorant.

THEO COLE
Electrical Engineering V

The lunchtime thoughts

During my brief study break in SUB to eat some leftover chili and stare at my comrades, I thought I might collect all of my random thoughts into a pointless, meandering letter to the editor. Not that I'm not working hard, but I'm just not working hard enough.

Random thought number one: yeah, I'm pissed about Bear Scat, so let's just get that out of the way.

Two: I love being back on campus. Nothing makes me happier than seeing garbage everywhere, a bunch of super-psyched people on a mission to save whomever, tents and booths, forced conversation, paper in urinals, free food—the list goes on.

Three: the coin-toss in SUB to see whether or not the wireless Internet is going to work. That wasn't so much a random thought—more of a random event actually—but I'm sure you're smart enough to infer my thoughts about this.

Four: the U-Pass is the best thing the SU has done in my time here.

Five: basically, I just want to rant about one particular group, whom

I'm going to stereotype together for sake of simplicity: the freshmen. Yes, I know you're not all the same, but most of you are. I lucked out this year to be registered in some first-year classes again to fill in some random science credit.

I miss how the profs speak to you like you're retarded, and in retaliation you then assume that you're the smartest person in the room. Awesome! I also love the way that many of you haven't yet tasted a drink called serious debt (like a prairie fire, only sharper), and therefore don't really appreciate the value of a dollar; my evidence for this is that there are coupons all over the ground which collectively say “Free Shit” on them.

But don't worry; they're mine now. And please, fear not; you actually are the coolest person in the world. In case you weren't sure, you are awesome. Party on, and don't worry about me—although I did compromise my image for a few seconds to pick up your garbage. Everything will balance out as I cash in my hundreds of dollars of Hudson's Gift certificates—one jug at a time.

ERIC KONSCHUH
Science III

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.